

THE GATEWAY

volume CXCVI number 37 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.gateway.ualberta.ca ♦ tuesday, 7 march, 2006



ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE KERNICK WITH PHOTOS FROM GATEWAY STAFF
X MARKS THE SPOT On Wednesday and Thursday, students will be headed to the polls, voting to fill the next six SU Executive positions and the Board of Governors student representative. Two plebiscite questions will also go to vote.

DIE Board boots delinquent councilors

ROSS PRISAKOWSKI
 News Staff

Just weeks before the next Students' Union councilor elections—and more than nine months after their term began—two truant councilors were removed from office last week by the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board (DIE Board).

The action was taken after learning that Science Councilor Yuan Hao had attended only a single meeting during his term in office, and that Physical Education and Recreation Councilor Philip Goebel had missed more than 20 meetings to date.

DIE Board removed the councilors under a section of SU bylaw that requires all councilors to be "responsible for regular attendance at meetings of Council," which is important so Council can reach quorum—the minimum number of members needed to legally conduct business. The board found that neither made a "reasonable" effort to meet that requirement

and removed them—an action that satisfied Greg Harlow, speaker of Students' Council, who brought the grievance to DIE Board.

"It's regrettable, but probably necessary. I'm in support [of the action] because everyone on Council has a responsibility to everyone else."

ARTS COUNCILOR BRYCE KUSTRA

"As chair of Students' Council I have an obligation to make sure that the logistical operations of Council run as smoothly as possible," said Harlow. "Those two councilors were in flagrant violation of the rules, so I went to DIE Board, asked for their removal, and DIE Board complied."

"It's regrettable, but probably necessary. I'm in support [of the action] because everyone on Council has a responsibility to everyone else," added Arts councilor and Audit Committee chair Bryce Kustra, dismissing concerns about an unelected official seeking the removal of elected representatives.

"Also, I think our speaker has demonstrated time and again that he's pretty non-partisan and just wants what's best for Council," he added.

According to Harlow, the SU had sent many e-mails, letters and made numerous phone calls to the two absentee councilors over the past two months, and failed to receive a single reply. The Gateway also attempted to contact Hao and Goebel for comment on their removal, but neither returned calls.

The removal of the two councilors means there is no longer a representative from the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation on Council, and that Science students are down to eight representatives.

PLEASE SEE COUNCILORS ♦ PAGE 2

Inside

News	1-7
Opinion	9-11
Sports	12-14
A&E	14-15
Features	27-33
Classifieds	34
Comics	35



Working the clubs

Paul McCartney might be a fine musician, he might even be a nice guy, but what does he know about seals?

OPINION, PAGE 9



Campaign stalker

David Berry followed around all 14 candidates in the SU elections, just so you didn't have to.

FEATURE, PAGE 31

Funding cuts threaten student refugee program

ROBIN COLLUM
 News Staff

Denis Remo was born in war-torn southern Sudan, went to high school in a Kenyan refugee camp, and is now halfway towards a science degree at the U of A. However, the student group that funds his education here is facing budget cuts from the federal government, and may have trouble sponsoring new students in the future.

World University Services of Canada (WUSC), a national aid organization, has been running their student refugee program (SRP) for almost 30 years, while the U of A branch has sponsored a student like Remo every year since 1988.

Sukaina Hirji, co-chair of the school's local WUSC committee, explained that at the U of A, a student is brought in to study for four years.

"The program is really unique," she said. "We try to completely cover living costs of the student in their first year, and we try to help out a little bit with the students for the rest of their degree."

"It's simple and cost-effective; it's really cheap and has been really successful. It makes a huge difference to

the students who are sponsored."

Each local WUSC committee is in charge of the in-Canada costs for their students. Sponsored students at the U of A are funded through a combination of a tuition waiver from the University, a grant from the Registrar's office and a \$0.72 dedicated fee from each student's tuition.

"The University sees [the program] very positively overall," said assistant registrar Melissa Casey. "It's an excellent opportunity to offer assistance, and it's a wonderful opportunity for students in Canada to learn about the world and the issues the refugees are facing."

Overseas expenses of the SRP used to be covered by WUSC's national office, through a block grant from the federal government. Recently, though, the government decided to restructure international development funding, and they will no longer provide money for WUSC's overseas projects.

This means that overseas expenses of the program will be transferred to the individual campuses.

"They're asking us to fundamentally shift the way we see funding for the SRP," said Hirji.

PLEASE SEE WUSC ♦ PAGE 4

Bears volleyball get aced during gold medal game

ANDREW RENFREE
 Sports Staff

It only took an hour and a half for the Trinity Western Spartans to knock the crown off the defending national champion Bears volleyball team, upsetting Alberta in the gold medal game. The Bears were ranked first in the country, had only lost once in the entire season and had beaten the Spartans five times in conference play, but Trinity won the game that really counted in a stunning 3-0 victory Sunday afternoon.

Fifth-year Bears setter, Brock Davidiuk said that he and his teammates were still in shock from the loss a couple hours after the game.

"It just feels like emptiness," said a disappointed Davidiuk. "It was unexpected, I guess, but Trinity played the best game I've ever seen that school play and we played one of our worst. We couldn't do anything right and they couldn't do anything wrong. Now, after the game, I feel like shit."

"I think right now probably the biggest word is shocked, because I think in all of their minds they weren't expecting this to happen, like myself, and probably everybody else in the country," added Bears head coach

Terry Danyluk.

The Spartans and Bears met last year in the gold medal game and Alberta won the close match in the final set.

"It was unexpected, I guess, but Trinity played the best game I've ever seen that school play and we played one of our worst. We couldn't do anything right and they couldn't do anything wrong. Now, after the game, I feel like shit."

SETTER BROCK DAVIDIUK

This year was expected to be a repeat performance, but TWU had control of the match from the outset and dominated the Bears in every facet of the game.

PLEASE SEE NO GOLD ♦ PAGE 12

THE GATEWAY

tuesday, 7 march, 2006

volume XXVI number 37

Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 13 000
ISSN 0845-356XSuite 3-04
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665

E-mail gateway@gatewayuofalberta.ca

editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Daniel Kaszor
cic@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-5168**MANAGING EDITOR** David Berry
managing@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6654**SENIOR NEWS EDITOR** Jake Troughton
news@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-7308**DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR** Chloé Fedio
deputynews@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6664**OPINION EDITOR** Tim Peppin
opinion@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6663**ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR** Mike Larocque
entertainment@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-7052**SPORTS EDITOR** Chris O'Leary
sports@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6652**PHOTO EDITOR** Matt Frehner
photo@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6648**DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR** Iris Tse
production@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6661

business staff

BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Smith
biz@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6669**AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE** Patrick Czolek
sales@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6700**AD GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Lisa Lunn
design@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6647**CIRCULATION PA** Adam Gaumont
circulation@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6669**CIRCULATION PA** Tyson Kaban
circulation@gatewayuofalberta.ca | 492-6669

THE GATEWAY is published by the Gateway Student Journal Society (CJLS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization, sponsored in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

commentaries

Comments, concerns, or complaints about the Gateway's content or operations should be first sent to the Editor-in-Chief at the address above. If the Editor-in-Chief is unable to resolve a complaint, it may be taken to the Gateway Student Journal Society's Board of Directors, beyond that, appeal to the non-partisan Society Ombudsman. The chair of the Board of Directors and the Ombudsman can be reached at the address above.

copyright

All material appearing in the Gateway bears copyright of their respective(s) and may not be used without written permission.

disclaimers

Opinions expressed in the pages of the Gateway are expressly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Gateway or the Gateway Student Journal Society.

Additionally, the opinions expressed in advertisements appearing in the Gateway are those of the advertisers and not the Gateway nor the Gateway Student Journal Society unless expressly stated.

colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Unis Powerlook 1000 flatbed scanner, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan opti 8 film scanner. Adobe Design is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to format PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Baskin, Knappe, Joanna, and Avenir. The colophon in the Gateway's sister paper, The Gateway's games of choice are Mario & Luigi: Partners in Time, and Contra.

contributors

Ross: "Just because I'm smart and can't speak doesn't mean I'm stupid!" Theodorakis, Andrea Benfante, Paul Owen, Trevor Phillips, Uzzma Rajan, John Knech, Amanda Joli, Lucina Deslauriers, Conrad Perre, Scott Usher, Kimberly Doherty, Andrew Newbourn, Chris Krause, Fraser Tingle, Marie-Amélie Jean, Chris Jung, Jeff Martin, Mike Kendrick, Robin Galkin, David Laxson, Rachel Hendricks, Alex Deacon, Nick Wiebe, Dana Kompendis, James Storrie, Erinne Ferrell, Nathalie Nadreau, Lauren Siegle, Tara Kieglitz, Neal Wilding, Weiyang Liu, Phil Head and Mike Otto.

Student seeks institution of fee for new PAC

DEREK LARSON
News Writer

Chad Fletcher is running the "Yes" campaign to promote the levying of a non-instructional fee of up to \$40 per year, per student, for a new Physical Activity Complex (PAC).

1 Briefly, why do you think campus needs this PAC?

I'm involved with the Recreation Action Committee on campus, which is composed of members from all the other recreation, intramural-type councils on campus, and the biggest feedback we get is that current facilities are inadequate for the demands of the student body. We hear about a lot of students that are going off campus paying hundreds of dollars a year to go to a facility where they can get in, do their thing, and get out in an adequate time. All the programs we have for intramurals max out every year. The dogeball tournament sold out in the months this year. There's desire, there's need, and ultimately, this is the only way we're going to be able to get expansion to the recreation and fitness facilities on campus.

2 The proposed \$40 per fee has been criticized as too high. Why do you think PAC is worth it?

Well, obviously there's been a lot of work that's been done with concern to the amount of the fee, both for how much it is and how long the mortgage is. Ultimately, there's got to be a balance between who has to pay how much. I mean, we could have paid this whole meal off if we'd asked for \$1500 per student in one hit, but that's just way too much of a burden to put on anybody. The current facilities are between 40 and 50 years old, so the life expectancy of this facility would be roughly the same, ideally. So, without spending

it over the ideal life expectancy, we were able to maintain a low cost per student over the time frame. I do hate having to ask anybody for more money; as a student, I pay all my fees, I pay all my tuition, and I know every time you turn around it seems it's a little more here and a little more there. I think the \$40 is really not that unbearable of a burden for students. It works out to less than a \$1 a week for the twelve months that you would have to access the facility for this fee. With the fee, you do get twelve months of access, versus currently where if you pay your fees for Fall and Winter, you still need to pay additional fees if you want to use the facilities for Spring and Summer. This would be \$40, twelve months of access, and ultimately the fee doesn't get paid by anybody until the facilities are open for use. There's a lot of misconception in regards to that; everybody thinks that if they vote yes now they're immediately going to be asked to pony up \$40. Until the doors are open and ready for use, nobody has to pay a dime.

3 Do you believe the current gym facilities on campus are adequate?

No. There have been third-party surveys done, the majority of those surveyed were undergraduate students; the majority of those people felt that they would use the facilities more if there was expanded facilities... and a majority of the students polled indicated they would be willing to support a fee to see expanded facilities. This wasn't something that was just dragged up one year, and it was like, "Jed, let's get \$40 per student and throw up some more facilities." These are issues that have been on the plate for a long time. Obviously, both the Faculty and the University have been working long and hard for several years now to bring this proposal



GRASS IS GREENER Plans are drawn to build a new Physical Activity Complex. SUPPLIED

to bear. The ice surface was listed as a top priority for recreational space on campus back in, I think, the '80s. So, this has been a long time coming, and ultimately, this is what we need to do. We need to get student support. The funding is not available through University, government, or industry, as the standing agreement with the University and the Students' Union is that any money from those sources goes directly to academic space. So, that covers the academic portion of what the facility would house, but unfortunately, the fitness and recreation facilities are open only to private donations and student support.

4 What do you think the effect of the PAC would be for students if it's approved, and it's not?

I'm a big fan of recreation on campus; I have to say I've had more fun playing squash with my buddies and playing in dogeball tournaments than I've ever had in a lab or in a group project. Nothing against labs and group

projects, but they're something I have to do. I really appreciate the ability to go out and socialize with people from different faculties than my own, meet new people, and get some exercise. I really would hate the University to turn into an academic-only institution. I firmly believe that there should be a certain lifestyle associated with it, and that people should go out, interact with other people in a non-classroom setting, and try to develop some relationships and try to get into a more social atmosphere. I believe this facility will help do that. I feel that we're really not serving the students well by not offering adequate space. I would be really disappointed if this doesn't pass because it would just mean the status quo, and if the facilities are inadequate now, in five years or ten years, as population continues to increase, they're going to become even more dilapidated, and they're going to become even more inadequate for the student need to the point where no one uses them. I think that would be a sad loss for the student body.

DIE Board removes councilors under bylaw infraction

COUNCILOR • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Under SU bylaws, vacant seats are offered to the runners-up in the previous election, meaning that the Science seat could be filled by Brendan Trayner, second place in last fall's by-election, while the Phys Ed seat, which Goebel was the only candidate for, will remain vacant.

However, according to Harlow, who described the removal of the councilors as a "non-event," it won't be a great

loss if both seats remain vacant since they essentially have been all year—though now they don't count towards quorum, which is currently set at a half of Council's filled seats. He believes the bigger issue is the role that DIE Board played in the process and what it means for the SU and students.

"What's most substantial about this decision and this action is not the removal of these two councilors from Students' Council," Harlow said.

"I think that speaks well for our judiciary and shows that there's actually some teeth in our bylaw enforcement process."

SPEAKER GREG HARLOW

"But DIE Board exercising its authority under bylaws to remove two elected officials. They've affirmed that should there be bylaw infractions at the Students' Union by political officers—elected or otherwise—DIE Board has the ability to remove them and will remove them."

"I think that speaks well for our judiciary and shows that there's actually some teeth in our bylaw enforcement process," he concluded.

WIN!

TICKETS!

SEE MÖTLEY CRÜE LIVE IN RED DEER ON THEIR CARNIVAL OF SINS TOUR!

TICKET GIVEAWAYS AT SCHOLARS SATURDAYS (THIS WEEKEND & NEXT) MARCH 11 & 18

Scholar's
— Pub & Grill —

11113 87 AVE 433-6364

75¢ HIGHBALLS & SHOTS
LADIES' NIGHT SATURDAYS — 9PM TO MIDNIGHT

MUSIC TRIVIA SUNDAY NIGHTS

KARAOKE TUESDAY NIGHTS

Student speaks out against PAC plebiscite for non-instructional fee

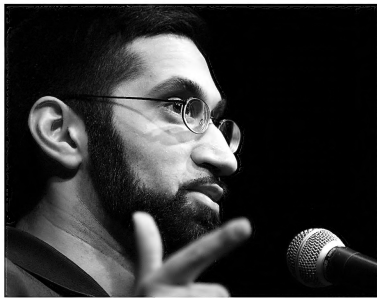
DERIK LARSON
News Writer

Mustafa Hirji is leading the "No" campaign against the levying of a non-instructional fee of up to \$40 per year, per student, for a new Physical Activity Complex (PAC).

1 Briefly, why do you think campus doesn't need this PAC?

I have no opposition to the Physical Activity Complex in principle; though I don't believe there's an absolute need for it. I do think that there are reasonable arguments for building the building. My opposition is narrowly focused on the issue of whether students should be paying for this building, and I don't think that's the case. First, because the precedent of the University and the Provincial Government is that students don't pay for new buildings. New buildings are the responsibility of the government and of donors. Student money is supposed to only go to paying for academics and things students materially gain something from, like you sometimes pay for an old textbook. So you own that textbook. We don't pay for University property, and in fact, if you look at the Alberta tuition fee policy, it forbids tuition being used to build buildings. So, they aren't able to build buildings using tuition money, so they're finding a way around that to get student money to pay for buildings, and I don't think we should open that Pandora's Box, because the precedent of the government is that students shouldn't pay for buildings. That shouldn't be done; universities should fundraise on their own. The second reason is that students aren't going to own this building or control this building, and if we're going to pay 80 per cent of the cost of it, we should own it and we should control it. It doesn't make sense to pay for something and not own it.

A third reason is that the University is basically coming to students because they can't find the money on their own for this. They're getting lots of money to build buildings, but the University doesn't see it as high enough priority to lobby actively to get that money. The government doesn't see it as a high enough priority to give money to it. So, why are students being asked to pick up the slack? If it's not that important,



LET ME COUNT THE WAYS Mustafa Hirji opposes students funding the PAC.

we shouldn't be paying for it. And the final argument is that we already pay \$107.96 in athletics and recreation fees to the athletic and fitness facility. Now, we're being asked to pay more, just like we're being asked to pay more for tuition every year, and we're not actually getting a whole lot back for that. And it makes it difficult to argue against a tuition increase if we're sending a message that, "Yeah, we can afford to pay more for education." And then we turn around and say, "No, we can't afford to pay more for tuition." That really doesn't make sense to me.

2 Would you be more inclined to support it for a lower fee?

No, I would not. What I would be inclined to do, perhaps, is that if the Students' Union decides that we need to build some kind of facilities, that the Students' Union builds it themselves. They levy a much smaller student fee, so you aren't paying for these research labs and all these new classrooms, and they're only paying for stuff that students are going to use, and then we would own it and control it completely. That, I might be more favourable to doing. I would need to be convinced on the actual need for it, though.

3 Do you think the current campus gym facilities are adequate?

It depends how you define adequate. I'm told that they are busy at certain times of the day, and that's unfortunate.

Are fitness facilities fundamental to an education here? No, not really. It's sort of a side benefit. You have the option: if you don't like the fitness facilities here, you can go off campus to many facilities and use those, as well. Obviously, I would like to see larger ones here for students to be able use, but I don't think it should come at the cost of students paying for a building, and opening up a Pandora's Box that students are responsible for building buildings, because if we do that, we're going to be asked to pay for every new building on campus.

4 What do you think the effect of the PAC would be for students if it's approved, and it's not?

If it's approved, most students pay \$40 more per year, assuming they're full-time students. A small number of them, I think, would be using new equipment in fitness facilities. I think varsity athletes would benefit from having a potential new competition gym and a new ice surface for their hockey games and whatever else the ice is used for. That's the benefit I see from it. The downside, if we don't approve this fee, is basically that the Physical Education/Recreation will go to their other plans for funding. This is the easiest way to get funding, but their business case outlines several other options, and they will turn to those. The building would probably take a few more years to get built, but it would eventually come up.

FINALLY!
N.E. EDMONTON HAS A
GREAT PLACE
TO EAT, DRINK AND PARTY!

THE STONE PONY
PUB AND PARTY BAR

NOW OPEN

15 PLASMA SCREENS AND
2 GIANT SCREENS TO WATCH
THE GAME!
FULL MENU
LARGE PATIO
DJ/DANCING EVERY WEEKEND

WEDNESDAY - WING NIGHT
20 FLAVOURS, 25 CENTS EACH
\$3.25 PINTS OF STONE PONY LAGER

THIRSTY THURSDAYS
25 CENT HIGHBALLS
FROM 8 TO 10PM
\$2 AFTER 10PM, PLUS DJ MINT

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
PARTY TIME WITH DJ/DANCING
FROM DJ MINT

#370 MANNING CROSSING - 137AVE
780.457.PONY(7669)

INCEBANK
ultra lounge

Hollywood Wednesday Ladies Night~
Ladies ~ ANY DRINK, INCLUDING PREMIUMS
\$1 TO 12:30, \$3 AFTER
Guys ~ ANY DRINK, INCLUDING PREMIUMS
\$3 ALL NIGHT

STRICT DRESS CODE IN EFFECT FREE PARKING

THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE
10765 JASPER AVE.
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T5J 2A5
PH 420.9098 FAX 420.9088
WWW.THEBANKULTRALOUNGE.COM

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Jake Troughton

A LOCKER IN NAME ONLY

On 2 March, Campus Security received a report that a backpack had been stolen from the basement level of the Clinical Sciences Building sometime between 9:30 and 9:40am. The backpack, which was pilfered from an unlocked locker, contained various pieces of identification, credit cards, and a cellphone. A pair of suspects, one male and one female, were observed leaving the area headed for the Health Sciences LRT station. The male suspect is described as Caucasian, about 25 years old, and 5'7"-5'9" tall with a shaved head, possibly wearing a grey jacket. The female is Caucasian, 5'2"-5'5", wearing a blue toque and carrying two large backpacks. Anyone with information is asked to contact Campus Security Services at 492-5050.

INTERNATIONAL CRIME

At 3am on 3 March, an unaffiliated female was arrested for breaking and entering at International House. Campus 5-0 officers attended the area and were told that a resident had spotted the female rummaging through personal belongings in a suite. It was later determined that a cell phone and some cash had been taken. The female was arrested and was found to be in possession of stolen property. She was trespassing from campus and released into the custody of the Edmonton Police Service.

KNUCKLEHEADS

On 3 March, four males were observed smoking marijuana in the area of 112 Street. Officers approached the group, none of whom were affiliated with the University, and confiscated a substantial amount of drugs along with brass knuckles. The males were trespassing and directed off campus via the LRT.

THAT'LL PUT YOU TO SLEEP

On 4 March, Campus Security officers located an extremely intoxicated female

sleeping in HUB Mall. They determined that the sloshed sleeper had a lengthy criminal record and was not affiliated with the University, and escorted her off campus.

THAT'S WHAT THE INTERNET IS FOR

At 10pm on 4 March, an anonymous caller reported that a "pervy" old man with long greasy hair and wearing a winter coat was viewing pornography in the computer lab on the lower level of SUB. Upon attending the area, Campus Security officers identified the male, who had no University affiliation. He was trespassing and escorted off campus.

OFF-DUTY

On 5 March, Campus Security responded to a complaint that a male had threatened some students at Lister Hall. Officers determined that the male was a staff member who was extremely intoxicated and had made threats and racial remarks to students studying in the area. The 5-0 attended the area and sent the drunken staffer home in a cab.

University rat study links pollution to heart attacks

ALEX DEACON
News Staff

Urban-dwelling fast food aficionados have yet another reason to alter their eating habits as the results of a recent University study shows that pollution increases the risk of heart attacks in people who have type-2 diabetes.

By using animal models, Dr. Jim Russell, a researcher at the U of A's Alberta Institute for Human Nutrition and former professor emeritus involved in research with the Faculty of Medicine, revealed that the arteries of obese rats were impaired when exposed to fine particulate matter (FPM)—pollution smaller than bacteria.

Both the contraction and the relaxation are impaired in these rats. The rats' arteries tend to hyper-contract in the presence of FPM; they go into spasm, and we can measure that. They also don't relax properly, which is the same thing that we see in obese humans," Russell said.

Russell explained that there's a strong link between obesity in humans and the development of type-2 diabetes: obesity can lead to a pre-diabetic condition in which an individual's blood glucose levels are higher than normal, but still below the diabetic range.

"Most, but not all, of those individuals will progress to type-2 diabetes. If they stay obese, they may very well get the heart effects, and the vascular effects, before they become diabetic," Russell said.

This has frightening implications, including the possibility of FPM acting as a catalyst for sudden death, a condition in which the heart goes into fibrillations and stops pumping blood effectively.



DANGERS STACKING UP A University study suggests that pollution can exacerbate the chances of heart attacks.

"The heart stops because the coronary arteries go into spasm, which sends the heart into spasms. It squirms around, like a bag of worms. Unless you get shocked with a defibrillator, you'll die. You are dead, technically, because your heart's stopped," Russell said.

Russell explained that there have been similar studies that have suggested a link between cardiovascular impairment and high levels of pollution. By manipulating blood flow in participants' arms, other researchers have demonstrated that levels of pollution can mediate blood vessel function in obese people.

"They found that they could corre-

late this impairment with the level of FPM in the areas in which [the participants] had been in the last three days," Russell said. "So now you can show that in humans, arterial dysfunction is directly related to what they're breathing. And that's not good news."

Russell pointed out that the results of his study have obvious implications for cities such as Edmonton, and he's hoping that this will help him attract more funding to continue research.

"What I see coming is a need to rethink environmental issues. That's going to be hard. In Edmonton we should be thinking not about bus transit but about light rail transit," he said, adding that the province should con-

sider alternative forms of power production that don't burn fossil fuels.

Russell also noted that his study has implications for how health care providers treat obesity and type-2 diabetes. He pointed out that because these conditions put people at an increased risk of a cardiovascular event, the effects of pollution on these cardiovascular events have previously been overlooked. The next step is to increase the understanding of the mechanism that makes the blood vessels in obese and diabetic people susceptible to pollution.

"If we can nail that down really well, maybe we can prevent some of these major events. That's the obvious thing to do."

Refugee program needs more funding

WUSC • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The extra money WUSC needs amounts to about \$5000 per sponsored student, Hirji explained, and would cover such things as the cost of selecting students and training them before they come to Canada.

"They advertise and encourage high-school students to apply," said Remo, describing his own experiences with WUSC in Kenya. "Hundreds of students apply, because it's the only chance they'll have to get post-secondary education. [WUSC] tries to look for the people who really need help, which is funny because everyone in the refugee camp is in need of help."

Remo went on to say that when he was selected for the program, he underwent three months of career training and coaching before taking the TOEFL English proficiency exam. Later at the University, WUSC volunteers guided his experience.

"They basically organized everything for me," Remo said. "[The volunteers] literally went with me to class for the first couple of days, showing me where things were. They helped me in a lot of ways, socially and academically."

"The surprising thing is that they're students, but they sacrifice all their time to volunteer for this organization. There's no way to repay [what they've given me], other than to work hard and help incoming students after you get here," he concluded.



\$

The Physical Activity Complex Fee

The Physical Activity Complex

The Building

→ A proposed new University building that is still in the conceptual phase.

Will contain

- a new ice rink,
- staff offices,
- research labs, and
- either a new fitness centre, or a new competition gym (if a new gym is built, the old gym will be transformed into a fitness centre).

The Fee

- The University wants each student to pay \$40 per year to build it.
- Students would pay 80% of the cost of the building.
- Students would pay the fee for up to 30 years.
- Once the fee is approved, it cannot be rescinded. **Once a decision is made, we are stuck with it!** Future students will have no say into whether they want to pay for this building, even if the building is old and run down in 30 years.

Why Oppose?

1. Yet another fee hike!

The University keeps raising tuition and fees to finance ballooning spending. You already pay \$10796 in fees for unrestricted access to fitness facilities. You should not give in to paying more yet again!

2. If students pay for it, students should own it!

Students will pay over 80% of the cost of the PAC. Yet students will neither own nor control any of it. (At most, students will get minority membership on an advisory committee.) If students pay for it, students should own it and control it!

3. The University won't pay—why should we?

The University is building many new buildings—see all the cranes around? They won't pay for the PAC because it isn't important enough. Students should not cover the University's slack!

4. Building operations costs force tuition to rise.

A new building means more maintenance and more facilities costs. Tuition will need to rise to finance it.

5. A dangerous precedent.

Student fees never pay for buildings—even the government forbids using tuition to build buildings. If the PAC fee is approved, we set a precedent that students paying for buildings is acceptable.

Vote NO to the \$40 Physical Activity Complex Fee

www.pac-fee.ca



SHOW ME THE MONEY Candidates for Vice-President (Operation and Finance), Theresa Chapman, Chris Cunningham and Cam Lewis, stepped up to the podium at the Myer Horowitz forum yesterday. NICK WIEBE AND MATT FRESHER

VPOF candidates grapple with Students' Union money woes

SCOTT LILWALL
JAKE TROUGHTON
News Staff

There are three students vying to be the next Vice-President (Operations and Finance) of the Students' Union: Science Counsellor Theresa Chapman, Economics student Chris Cunningham, and Arts Counsellor Cam Lewis.

1 Are there any areas in the SU budget where you think money is being misspent? Why?

Theresa Chapman: Well, there are a few things that I have looked at where things get overlapped. One thing that I found this year, which is kind of interesting, is that \$17 000 has been budgeted for the PowerPlant for internal public relations, which is a really bad way to spend money. ... I think miscommunication is where a lot of money gets spent that totally doesn't need to be. On Audit Committee, when you go through the budgets, you don't really find mispending, but you do find things where it's like, "Okay, how could we do this better?" When you're buying airline tickets, how can we collect as many Air Miles as we can, so we can get a free flight every year? Why are we paying service fees on so many credit cards? ... Those are small things, but at the same time, I think there's a larger issue to deal with, with all these tiny little things. I think it would be nice to have a system where Audit Committee recommends when they notice those things because they look at the budgets with a fair amount of detail, what is actually being practiced. And their recommendations are given to the Budget and Finance Committee, rather than me, the director and the organization going out and trying to find all these tiny little things to adjust, because it's more important to find overall direction, to actually make things happen instead of spending an entire year trying to find all these little glitches in the budget.

Chris Cunningham: Obviously, I think the big issue is the PowerPlant, as it's been for the past couple of years. I mean, you put a bar surrounded by 30 000 borderline alcoholics, you should be clearing a profit, right? The fact that it's running any sort of a deficit is just

unacceptable, as far as I'm concerned. Apart from that, my entire platform revolves around the fact that, in my opinion, all of the non-profit services that the Students' Union offers—things like Safe Walk, the Student Distress Centre, the Ombuds Service and all these types of things—the cost of these should be covered 100 per cent by the revenue from our businesses, and that's just not the case. Now, 20 per cent of the budget is made up of SU membership fees and dedicated fees, and I want to eliminate those, and that will ultimately lower tuition, right? So, that's where I'm at about now. I think there's a lot of improvement in the budget, actually.

Cam Lewis: I don't think there's any places where money is being spent for purposes other than what it was intended. I think there are places where we spend money where we don't necessarily need to. The services aren't the greatest, but I don't think there are any areas where money is being spent that is outside the goals of the service.

2 This year's VPOF, Jason Tobias, has proposed a major restructuring of the PowerPlant to help stem its mounting losses. What would you do about the PowerPlant's financial troubles?

Chapman: One thing I've really noticed is that you get one exec who will work on something, and then you get another exec, and they start doing something, and they throw out what the last exec did and there's no continuity. The solution to the PowerPlant is not a one-year quick fix, it's long-term. I really like the proposal, but I have the reservation that there's no market research. I think it's more preliminary than Jason Tobias makes it out to be. ... The last bar revitalization, the reason that one failed was that they had a continuity problem; someone made a plan, and then next year they pushed it aside, where they did a repaint. They made the PowerPlant look nicer, they spent all its money, but didn't actually change the fundamental problems of service and what people really want in a bar. Our alcohol sales are not that high, and when it does come to alcohol sales, the only

alcohol sales that we're breaking even on is wine. So, it doesn't make sense to have a huge bar. So the plan does sound good, but I want to see real numbers.

Cunningham: I think it would be a disservice to the SU if I were to come in next year and tear down everything he has worked for. I think, obviously, I should take a look at it and see if it's changing and if it stops the bleeding, putting in the coffee shop and the all-you-can-eat buffet or whatever it is. But, ultimately, I think the real problem with the PowerPlant comes down to the service and the affordability. I mean, the service is atrocious; I don't think anyone would argue with me on that. I even actually spoke with Jason and he told me the same thing: it has always been a concern. So, we need to do something there. As it stands right now, the beer is just overpriced, as far as I'm concerned. You can walk right down the street to Scholans' and pay a fraction of the cost for a pint of beer, and I think we're losing a lot of business to these other bars on Whyte Avenue and around campus. I think that, by lowering prices and increasing services, we'd be able to attract more students to be able to come back to the PowerPlant. I mean, when I first got here, I'd spend every Friday afternoon with me and my boys and go to the PowerPlant, and we'd have a beer after a long week of studying. We don't do that anymore, because it's just not affordable. It's an ongoing joke with me and my friends: we sit down at the PowerPlant and you want to have something to eat, but you look at your watch and it's like, "Well, I have class in 50 minutes, so I'd better not order anything, right?" It's just horrible; people just don't go there anymore. The service used to be good—it was never great, but it used to be good. Beer was a lot cheaper, and it was packed; it was a fun place to be, and it's lost that. I want to bring that back.

Lewis: I've been involved in the planning process for the PowerPlant all along; I sit on the Budget and Finance Committee. I was involved the last time we did redid the PowerPlant as well, and that obviously didn't work. I think before we take any more major steps with the PowerPlant, what we really need to do is get some professional consulting done and make sure

that if we do move forward with a new plan for the PowerPlant, that it's well-researched and that we know it's going to work, rather than just throwing caution to the wind.

3 What is one major initiative you'd like to undertake as VPOF?

Chapman: One thing that I really want to see happening is major initiative. Something I would like to achieve—not get going, but actually achieve in the short term—is holding non-instructional fees accountable. Right now, it's like \$10.3 million per year for undergraduates, and this doesn't include the SU budget—this is not dedicated fee units [DFUs]. These are non-instructional fees that are not held account at all, and that's a problem, because the University just takes the fee, and they don't have any system where they have to be questioned or audited from the student perspective. For example, the [proposed] health fee increase, they came to us and said, "We want more money." So we said, "Okay, let's see that you actually need money," and they said, "We're not going to show you that." I think that's a problem. As a students' union, we represent students, so we should not be just looking at tuition, we should also be looking at this big headache where students' money is being used. This money does go to important things, ... but the point is that it's not held accountable at all. ... So I'd really like to see a change in University policy.

Cunningham: The reason I got interested in the race was the PowerPlant, so that's going to ultimately be one of the big issues I push forward to try and figure out what's wrong with it and really come to a solution, because I don't want to lose it. Apart from that, trying to put together a long-term plan that will inevitably see the financial independence of the SU, like I alluded to earlier. Eliminating these membership fees and the dedicated fund fees. I think we can do without those. I think with a little bit of foresight, a little tweaking of our budget, that's more than doable. Even in SUB itself, ... why doesn't SUB own the right to that Subway, why don't they own the rights to Kdo Japan? Yeah, we're getting rental revenue from these places,

but we could be getting the entire profit if we were to just put our own places in there, and it's not to say that we can't. Cram Dunk and Juicy and L'Espresso are all clearing profits, so why can't we do that for all the places in SUB?

Another thing, I've got a bit of a background in real estate, and in Alberta right now, I think it's pretty easy to say real estate is a pretty hot issue. I think we can diversify, we can expand. Like, why do we have to keep business on campus? Why don't we buy, for instance, one of these apartment buildings around campus? We could have an SU-run residence. And that's not to say that we would give preferential treatment to students or anything; we'll run it like a business. You'd be getting a net revenue within the first year. We just need to look towards the future. We need an aggressive investment strategy, and I think real estate is a really dynamic way to do it.

Lewis: I think the VPOF's biggest role, independent of the other Vice-Presidents, is the business side of things. If you're looking at the service side of things, you do have to work closely with the Vice-President (Student Life). Independent of the other vice-presidents, my biggest goal is to turn RATT into a really great place to be on campus, for lunch, for dinner, and for drinks in the evening. RATT's doing really well right now, and we can really turn it into the place to hang out on campus, which I think is a great opportunity for us.

4 Star Trek or Star Wars?

Chapman: Oh God. I can't really give this a fair one, but I'm going to say Star Wars. I really like Star Wars, and I was never allowed to watch enough TV as a kid to watch Star Trek.

Cunningham: Got to be Star Wars. Got to be Star Wars. Was never a Trekkie.

Lewis: Star Wars. I was never a big Star Trek fan. I liked *The Next Generation*, but the rest of them were just cheesy. But I love Star Wars. I actually just watched *Episode III* last night. Great stuff; great stuff. I love the lightsabre battles; they make me happy inside.

Students to vote in plebiscite to ban smoking on U of A campus

JAKE TROUGHTON
Senior News Editor

Wednesday and Thursday, students will vote in a non-binding plebiscite to gauge support for implementing an eventual ban on the sale and use of tobacco products on campus. Though there's no official "No" campaign, the "Yes" campaign is being run by Sheeren Kangarloo, a third-year student studying Kinesiology.

1 Briefly, why do you want the University to implement a tobacco ban?

I think a tobacco ban should be done because, first off, the University's trying to teach us young adults to become adults living on our own, so selling tobacco products or allowing the use of tobacco products is kind of sending mixed messages. It's telling students, "Be good and learn to have a living," and they know that, so it's kind of giving us mixed messages. We should probably remove that so that there's

no mixed message.

2 Do you believe the lack of a "No" campaign signifies a low level of opposition?

No, I'm treating this campaign like there still is an opposition, because even if there is no "No" campaign, there were letters in the Gateway proving there is opposition, and I know there is. It's not even just the smokers who are opposing it; there are still non-smokers who are opposing it, so there's a non-official "No" campaign.

3 How do you respond to opponents who argue that it's enough to ban smoking indoors, as it always has been?

It's not an issue of just indoors, because outdoors it's still a harm; it's still a health issue. It's still a concern for everyone's health and well-being. Even though inside it's not permitted, it's collected near doorways, it enters through open doors. If you're sitting in SUB, it gets pretty cold by the doorways; that's

kind of a little way to tell you that it's not just warm, clean air inside. So even though inside there's a ban and everyone does that, all the other stores and malls and stuff, we should just kind of push it further—at least push [smoking in] doorways a lot further away.

4 Smoking is a legal activity. What differentiates it from other legal but unhealthy activities that are still allowed on campus?

Tobacco is the number one known, preventable cause of death; it's the number one killer out there. Even though it's a legal product, if it were introduced today as a new product, it would not be allowed. The research would be done, and they'd know it's harmful, and it wouldn't be allowed. The only reason it is allowed is because they didn't have the research and they didn't know the harms of it. So people say, "Oh, well then we should become a dry campus," but at a certain level, alcohol doesn't do any harm to you. Tobacco use is doing harm to you immediately. One cigarette is doing



NOT BUTTING OUT Sheeren Kangarloo wants smoking to get off campus.

harm to you; one drink isn't doing harm to you. In some respects, a glass of wine a day is healthy. So when

people compare tobacco products to alcohol or other things, they're not even comparable.

STREETERS

This year's Students' Union elections will take place tomorrow and Thursday, and students will have the chance to vote on two plebiscites in addition to the usual six Executive and Board of Governors positions.

Will you be voting?



Chris Magpantay
Engineering IV

I probably won't be voting for anyone, because I graduate this year, and I don't want my vote to influence what people get next year. As for the plebiscites, I'll probably be voting for both of them, but that's as far as I'll go.



Greg Lane
Arts IV

No, I'm not going to vote. I don't believe it's going to matter anyway. It's an SU election; nothing really happens anyway. Though it is pretty funny, and the posters are creative.



Kim Flatt
Ag/For III

Yes, I am voting. I feel it's important to take part and make the best decisions we can. I don't want to tell you who I'm voting for. I'm voting No for the PAC complex. I think it's ridiculous to tie students down who will be here in 30 years, and to charge \$40 to students who can't afford to eat.



Connor LaForge
Science II

Yes, I think it's better than not voting; you have the option. I'm convinced on Dave Courmoyer [for Vice-President (External)]; he's really knowledgeable about the decisions he's making. But for everyone else, I'm still kind of undecided.

Compiled and photographed by Jake Troughton and Ross Prusakowski

Got a hot tip?

news@gateway.ualberta.ca

THE GATEWAY

Get real ▶ with Respiratory Therapy at NAIT

Looking for education that'll really take you places? Check this.
NAIT's Respiratory Therapy program delivers real-world training for a high-demand profession.

FACT For the past five years, 100% of NAIT's Respiratory Therapy grads have found training-related jobs within weeks of graduating.

FACT Typical starting salary: \$4,200 - \$4,600/mo.

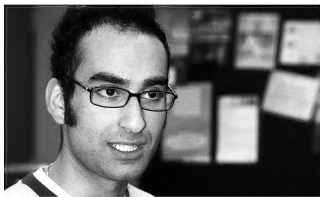
FACT Our three-year program involves two years of labs and lectures followed by a final year of on-site training in a clinical setting.

Apply by March 31 for Fall 2006

For more info:
www.nait.ca/programs
(780) 491-3194

▶ **Get in. Go far.**

NAIT
THE NORTHWESTERN ALBERTA
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



STUDENTS' UNION HOPEFULS Vice-President (Student Life) candidates Omer Yussuf, Amanda-Leigh Hanson and Sarah Kall debate campus issues and compare the merits of *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*.

VPSL candidates campaign for greater non-academic life

RACHEL HENDRICKS
News Writer

This year, three candidates are seeking the position of Student's Union Vice-President (Student Life): Amanda-Leigh Hanson, currently on Alberta Public Interest Research Group's Board of Directors, Science Councilor Omer Yussuf, and fourth-year genetics student Sarah Kall.

1 The job of the VP (Student Life) is relatively low-profile in between major events. What do you see as the most important part of the job besides organizing events for students?

Amanda-Leigh Hanson: Probably to inquire as to what the student body is looking for in the meantime, not including those events. The things that I'm interested in are health care and the health plan that was attempted on campus last election and lost. The U-Pass is another one. I'm environmentally conscious, so I think that transportation is an issue for a lot of students. So [addressing] issues like that; but more than just pushing for another referendum, I think it's educating students, making them aware of what's going on, what the opportunities and possibilities are with these programs, and possibly working with the VP (External) to coordinate our efforts. I think that student groups on campus are vitally under-heard and under-utilized, when they could possibly bring a lot of advocacy on certain issues to other students around the campus.

Omer Yussuf: Working between events, I think, really gives the VPSL the opportunity to work on things that they would like to put a focus on that aren't very well-publicized. I think one of the big things that is really changing about the VPSL portfolio is that it's moving more away from the realm of planning and managing events, and leaving that up to more of the staff and the Associate VPSL, and then putting their focus on non-academic advocacy. Like, when you have your events down pat, shouldn't you be advocating for students and finding out what really matters to students?

I think it's almost advantageous for the VPSL to have a low profile in between events, because it gives him or her time to focus on what really needs to be done on the more political side of things. The VPSL is more than just a manager of events. They've got a responsibility to students, and this gives them the time to address that.

Sarah Kall: I think the reason it's low profile between major events is because the VPSL doesn't really have any control over anything else structurally. If you look at the bodies that the VPSL sits on, they sit on the Student Life Activities Committee and they're directly reported to by the AVPSL, who deals with the Programming Committee. So, outside of programming, there's nothing really there for the VPSL to implement.

There needs to be a push for the VP (Student Life) to be more actively involved in services and non-academic advocacy. When that happens, we can use these tools to build a campus community and foster an environment that's conducive for students' success.

2 What would you do to make events like the Week of Welcome (WOW) or Antifreeze more popular?

Hanson: Possibly try to secure some sponsorship that would allow for some neat door prizes. I think Kolanee is a sponsor of WOW, like the Beer Gardens and what not, though I'm not sure on that exactly. But just to secure some sponsorship that would bring big prizes, and to promote these events as widely as possible. Antifreeze, I heard, was really under-promoted, and so I just think a lot of promotion [is necessary].

I think that they're really great events in themselves, so if more students knew about them, and if the general perspective that different students had on them was improved—if it wasn't something to look on with a negative connotation, but if the image was made better, in more well-rounded terms, so that every student on campus had some incentive to be a part of it—it would probably help. So just looking at ways in which the campaigns could reach out to each student group in itself.

Yussuf: Well, I have three years of experience working to coordinate these events, since 2003 with WOW, and 2004 with Antifreeze. I've actually seen a general trend of things getting more popular, then less popular, then more popular. This year we actually saw a 32 per cent increase in Antifreeze team turnout, which is amazing because I think word is really starting to get around, not just to student groups, but also different members of the community.

I think for WOW, it's one of those events that really depends on the weather for how successful it's going to be. But as far as real ideas to make these events more popular, it really comes down to the committee level. ... The formulas for both WOW and Antifreeze this year have been very similar to last year. Pretty much every single event was a rerun. I think we need to take more risks, and explore some alternative programming.

Kall: I think that the steps have been taken in previous years, and I think they're moving in the right direction. It takes constant re-evaluation to increase the quality of the programs, to start with, and then advertising—getting to the students that these programs are here.

But, at the same time, what I'd like to do is steer away from the idea of SU programming for students, and focus more on students for students. I think students have a better idea of what it is they want to do for themselves, and their programs are often better attended than the SU programs are, like WOW and Antifreeze. For example, Beer Gardens and End Week—they're not put on by the SU, but they have huge success rates as far as actually involving students and engaging them. And I think what we should do is focus more on encouraging that more, because it works better. And while WOW and Antifreeze are great, there's more to it than that, and I think that's what we should be focusing on.

3 What new initiatives would you like to implement as next year's VP (Student Life)?

Hanson: I'd like to initiate something of a broad-base survey on a few issues

that I think are really relevant to student life, though not particular to the VPSL position. So along the lines that I mentioned before, like the health care issue on campus.

To see health care going down the tubes provincially and federally is a really stark point for us as students on this campus to recognize and to start taking action on. We can only work on our campus to sort of prevent that, or be the change in the future that we wish to see. Our initiative for a \$50 per term student health insurance plan backfired as far as that was concerned. Students were conservative with their fiscal spending and they didn't want to support everyone else.

So, a survey that asks people what they're willing to do and what their willingness to pay might be for certain initiatives. My biggest one would be a huge cross-campus survey on a few issues: that would be transportation, that would be the U-Pass. Possibly get a feeling to go to the government, to the City, and to the University with.

Yussuf: One of the initiatives I'd really like to focus on is all the work coming out of the Non-Academic Advocacy Task Force. Basically, for the past few months the VPSL has been sitting down with individuals, like the General Manager and the Senior Manager of Student Services, to try to come up with a way of working out the portfolio so that it fits better to the non-academic advocacy scene. [I want to] give it a real focus and a real goal. All of this isn't going to be a new initiative; it's going to be something I'd like to follow through with. Just because the groundwork was done this year, doesn't necessarily mean it's going to happen next year. And I think it's important for any of the VPSL candidates to seriously look into what has been done this year, because we can investigate every bit, but if those investigations aren't acted upon, then it was almost useless.

On the more direct side of things, I'd like to do is work with the Student Life Advisory Committee, and figure out how we can basically change the way that the VPSL fits into the community portfolio. ... Also trying to figure out how we can rework some of these

events, like WOW and Antifreeze. We know what formula is working, but we need to have new ideas. We need to take a few more risks.

Kall: I think the number one thing I want to do with the VP (Student Life) position is give it a purpose. Past VPSLs have wanted to move away from the idea that the VP (Student Life) is only about programming, and that's not happening. The reason it's not happening is because nobody has ever established a clear idea of where they want the position to go, and what they want it to do.

So I'd like to give the position a purpose and, in my opinion, the purpose should be to foster an environment that is supportive of a student's personal success, of their academic career, and of their extracurricular activities. And, in order to do that, what I think we have to do is stop looking at the VPSL position as being made up of non-academic advocacies, services, and events, and instead use those three things as tools to accomplish the larger purpose. When we do that, we can actually break it down and then create a network of student support, and that would be a huge goal. That raises big questions about how do we actually engage students on this campus? ... I think if you start to look at the position as trying to accomplish a big task, then the initiatives that can be undertaken are endless, and it's no longer the joke position of the SU.

4 *Star Trek* or *Star Wars*?

Hanson: Wars, definitely.

Yussuf: Well [grabs cup]. I have a cup of various things that I love, and on it is *Star Trek*, Students' Union, Orientation, and *Transformers*. So I'm a huge fan of *Star Trek*, and I do like *Star Wars*, but it's kind of growing up with *Star Trek*, growing up with the morals, and it really does raise you in a way that you've got to look to the future and ask, "Can we work towards that?"

Kall: *Star Wars*—we could use the force to fight against that dark side of the status quo.

Sprott Ph.D. in Management



RESEARCH
EXCELLENCE
INNOVATION
CHANGE
MANAGEMENT



In a world of constant change, traditional approaches to complex business problems do not meet the challenges of the future. At Sprott we generate the knowledge needed to provide solutions. Our research excellence has been acknowledged through many national and international awards.

Interested in solving the business challenges of tomorrow? Consider the Sprott Ph.D. in Management.

- Funding for all accepted candidates - R-ships, Taships, scholarships
- One of the largest Ph.D. programs in the country
- Full- or part-time study
- High levels of faculty interaction ensure an excellent collegial environment and good time-to-completion rates
- Focus on the whole organization through integrative courses and multiple functional areas
- Easy access to national research institutions, international agencies, and the country's largest concentration of export oriented high tech firms

sprott.carleton.ca

Carleton University
Sprott
School
of Business

Oscars still no more than the same old show

THE ACADEMY AWARDS have concluded this week-end and I, for one, am glad that people will finally shut up about how this was the most political Oscars yet.

For weeks, film critics and various entertainment industry types have been patting their collective back, applauding themselves for selecting movies with such weighty embedded political messages. Collectively, the Best Picture nominees tackled sensationalist journalism, the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, racism and homophobia. How radical! How political! How daring! They often nominated "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp" for Best Original Song!

But, despite the collection of so-called politically and socially conscientious films, and that they somehow lured Jon Stewart far enough from his fake newsroom to host the shindig, this Oscars was no different from its predecessors. Not that those aforementioned films were not politically or socially conscious; they were. But one can't help but notice that the larger theme of the show was, as usual, all about self-love.

Stewart tried to poke fun at the ongoing self-congratulatory theme when he commented on a montage of cinematic social commentary that included clips from *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Dr. Smith Goes to Washington* and *Norma Rae*, sardonically pointing out that, "None of those issues were ever a problem again. Congratulations to us." Of course, the moral of these plans couldn't muster the effort to feign laughter. They chose instead to laugh at the Lily Tomlin and Meryl Streep's Robert Altman-inspired overlapping exchange, as if only that was cerebral enough, safe enough and self-referential enough for them to laugh at.

Even George Clooney, who acquired some solid political cred this year with a respectable body of work that included *Syriana* and *Good Night, and Good Luck*, couldn't refrain from making masturbatory congratulations. He applauded the Academy's pioneer spirit by equating the latest crop of best picture nominees with *Hattie McDaniels' Oscar* in 1939. Hey George, I don't care if you're the Sexiest Man Alive circa 1997, you just lost half of your political cred with that acceptance speech.

Even though this year's Oscars tried very hard to convince us that it was preaching a political message, it wasn't. Make no mistake, the true winner of the night wasn't *Crash*, or *Brokeback Mountain*. In fact, the real winner of the night wasn't even one of the five Best Picture nominees—it was the penguins. *March of the Penguins* was easily one of the most well received movies of 2005, and, in hindsight, there should be little surprise that *Penguins* excelled in the popularity contest. Not only do penguins look astonishingly cute when they slide on their bellies, but their monogamous relationships, albeit temporary, present a message easily embraced by the religious right. Yet the real-life gay chinstrap penguin couple from the Central Park Zoo, Silo and Roy, is also as easily absorbed by the liberal left.

Let's be honest—nowhere in theatres can you find a movie that plants itself so firmly in the middle of the road and succeeds so spectacularly at doing so. Even the most political message available in the movie—global warming and the shrinking of the Antarctic ice sheet—was easily glossed over as audiences were encouraged to coo at the fluffy newborn penguin chicks instead.

Not to say *March of the Penguins* wasn't a legitimate cinematographic achievement. I enjoyed it, and I applaud the filmmakers who braved the harsh weather and framed the penguins in such loving light. But, until the day they can convince half of the people who saw *March of the Penguins* into seeing thought-provoking movies like *Good Night, and Good Luck* and *Capote*, until the day when the movie industry stops assailing our intelligence with Martin Lawrence in a fat suit, there's nothing pioneering about the movie industry at all. Stop fooling me into thinking that by nominating those five films, the Academy has automatically arrived at some sort of social-political frontier.

IRS TSF
Design & Production Editor

LETTERS

Storrie's comments on keepers ignorant

I have to say that in the last four years of reading the Gateway I have never been outright enraged by anything. Surprised, yes. Informed, sometimes. Humoured, occasionally. A little ticked or rubbed the wrong way, who hasn't? But the stupidity of James Storrie in his 2 March article, "Butt-wipes, keepers and human dignity," crossed a fucking line!

I'd just like to state that everyone is entitled to an opinion, but whether or not that opinion should be shared is the issue. He started innocently enough, and even gave me a laugh or two. But when he began talking about menstruation—something I'm positive he knows nothing about—that made me angry. It's not even the criticism of the keeper that did it—I'm not sure I'd ever personally use one. It was the fact that he was so incredibly critical of an issue that has absolutely nothing to do with him, and his criticism of a woman's choice to help protect the environment in whatever way she can.

How has a keeper ever hurt him? Has he ever encountered one? Has he ever cut him off on his way home through rush-hour traffic, or taken the last issue of *Hustler* off the rack right before he got there? No! And to add to that, has he ever belled for a week from a hole in his body? I'm guessing the answer is no, because he was around to write this piece of shit article.

Bottom line, everyone has the right to an opinion, and I'm sure Storrie would agree. If a woman wishes to use a keeper because, in her opinion, it helps this planet of ours, Storrie is in no way qualified to be critical of her. It may just be my opinion, but Storrie should use those butt-wipes he's so fond of to mop up all of the bullshit that he spews.

TIFFANY HYNATIK
Biology IV

Imperfect memories don't destroy fact/fiction distinction, Varsava

Thank you, Nina Varsava, for adding another section to the "No one Should be Held Responsible for Anything They Do" society rulebook (Re: "Non-fiction isn't fact—read with care," 28 February).

The public and the media should be outraged by James Frey's *A Million Little Pieces* since it includes fictitious elements. I think that, in fact, people should have moral obligations to present facts to the best of their abilities, despite their "imperfect" memories. There's a difference between having an imperfect memory and deliberately fabricating a background—intent. Please don't tell me that in James Frey's case, claiming he spent three months in jail when, in fact, he spent only several hours is a result of some pretty serious amnesia.

I believe that publishers are responsible for ensuring that non-fiction work is indeed factual when possible, for example, by checking criminal records.

The next time I read non-fiction, I sure hope the author isn't delirious.



ately lying to me, but is rather presenting facts to me the best they can, despite "imperfect memories and scattered records."

JENNIFER BENNETT
Chemical Engineering IV

Learn the material before running, Ms Kelly

This regards an interview comment made by SU Presidential candidate Michelle Kelly in last Thursday's issue (Re: "The best-laid plans of SU presidential candidates" 2 March). I don't know whether it is a misprint or Ms Kelly's true belief, but the "CaPS tutor and exam registries" she mentions are most likely the SU Information registries already offered for free on the website: www.suualberta.ca/info.

It's somewhat saddening that a presidential candidate isn't even aware of what the SU already has, let alone what it needs to have. The databases have been around for the past four or five years, and are available to students 24 hours a day on the web, not via some faculty office. If publicity is the problem, perhaps make that part of your platform, Ms Kelly. Not taking the time to even look through the SU services, let alone to offer meaningful suggestions to improve them, shows me how much time you've taken to investigate the much larger issues the SU needs to deal with.

CLAIRE BOULON
Science IV

The sex issue didn't suck

I have a few things to say in response to Margaret Clarey's "The sex issue sucked" letter (28 February). First of all, the sex issue wasn't trying to "glamorize" a sexual lifestyle; it was for the plain entertainment of the readers. Of course it was "insensitive and immature," but that was the reason that so many people, including you, read it. Second, if you're so offended by the articles in the Gateway, don't read it. If you're tired of having your "senses assaulted," I'm sure a nice copy of

Harry Potter will tickle them.

Furthermore, I wasn't surprised to see that this response was from an engineer. I know 'geers have lots of homework, but university is more than burying your face in your thermodynamics text. You have four years to be irresponsible here. Relax. Work is for people with jobs. You'll never remember class time, but you'll remember the time you got wasted with your friends. Hopefully this sinks in before you're in your final year here. And to all the geers out there, MATLAB isn't the end of the world. Let's pick up on those social skills that our faculty is so lacking in. I'm embarrassed to tell people I'm an engineer because they instantly stereotype me as a tool. So please, stop nattering out in ETL on your new TI-89s.

To all the "sex-crazed" writers of the Gateway, keep it up. You guys rock, and make so many people's boring classes much more entertaining. Don't let the Margarets out there weigh on your conscience.

COLIN GERMANIUK
Engineering IV

Gateway Opinion section boring, trite

One of your own insisted that I write this, otherwise I would have quietly fumed in solitude. Your Opinion section is in desperate need of good writers. Rarely will I enjoy more than one article per issue, and only two contributors are consistently worth reading. The fact that I find the Letters page more interesting than the rest of Opinion implies that you have the wrong people writing this section.

Interest is the principal problem with this section; you don't invoke it in me. I'm bombarded with articles concerning ridiculous subjects, arguments with idiotic premises and unimaginative satirical pieces. Regarding subjects and arguments, it's as though many writers are seeking profundity in the wrong areas and for the wrong reasons. The subject matter is often frivolous, and even subjects with potential are dealt with superficially.

It seems that writers often choose their topic matter to try to present something never thought of before, rather than weighing in on common, but interesting, topics. This often has disastrous results, as they are led to seemingly original, yet ultimately uninteresting, ideas. The satirical pieces are also uninteresting, because they usually take on the same, tired format: pretending they are for a position they're truly against.

The desperate drive for depth is detrimental to the articles grammatically and stylistically as well. The need to sound "smart" compromises many writers' communication of ideas. Conciseness is replaced by verbosity, and words that would fit are replaced by other polysyllabic ones that don't. I'm a student casually reading a paper; I shouldn't be a high school teacher counting awkward transitions and grammatical inconsistencies. If you want examples of anything I've said, pick up any issue of the Gateway.

GERALD SINGH
Ag/For III

Mandatory retirement maintains productivity

Regarding Rachel Hendricks' 2 March article on mandatory retirement ("University reconsidering mandatory retirement policy"), I believe your readers should know that productive professors who are excellent instructors typically have the opportunity to continue teaching beyond age 65. When mutually agreeable, a department and an otherwise-retired staff member may re-contract on a term basis so that the professor may continue teaching. This practice is actually quite common, and a natural outcome of the economic theory of contracting. To argue that a professor will be forced out regardless of productivity is simply a red herring.

To argue that mandatory retirement is a "human rights issue" is another red herring. Every professor on this campus knew upon accepting employment that the University has a mandatory retirement policy.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS • PAGE 10

Let's build a rocket to the stars

Without a plan for my future, I'm turning to my dream as a kid—spaceman



CONAL
PIERSE

As the semester trudges towards its inevitable end, I'm once again faced with the same problem I face every year: what courses am I going to take next year? As someone who has yet to declare a major, and whose minor was based on what easy courses had the highest percentage of attractive women in them, I'm in what some would call a pickle (though without the delicious salty crunch). And even after I figure out how to get one of those "degrees," I'm still left with fewer job prospects than a gigolo at a KD Lang concert.

In light of this, I did some heavy soul searching, followed by some heavy drinking, and realized that I need to get back to my roots. Back to what I knew I wanted to be as a child—a space cowboy. And, just like a conjoined twin, I know I'm not alone in this. There are plenty of you out there struggling through a first degree with no real idea of what you want to be, but you're pretty sure you'd still make a kick-ass spaceman. That's why I'm proposing that we get together and form our very own space program. I'm confident that if we gather students from all faculties we can pull this off. Except for Fine Arts, because lets face it, rockets aren't fuelled by poetry.

First and foremost, we'll need some people with physics degrees, or pos-

sibly an engineering dropout, to come up with numbers. This part I could probably do on my own, because let's face it, our trajectory is simply "up," and all we're trying to do is successfully miss the ground for an extended period of time. But, if NASA has people punching numbers into calculators then, damn it, so will we.

It's also equally important that we have some accounting students to take care of the financial side of things. As we won't be a government-funded organization, our cash flow will mainly come from what we earn waiting tables in our spare time. As such, we'll need to make like a Russian factory and fudge the numbers. Hopefully you didn't pay to much attention to business ethics.

As for Comp-Sci students, we'll need you to produce simulations of our planned flight, as well as a large number of spreadsheets and graphs. You'll get the numbers for your graphs from our team of statistics majors. They won't mean a damn thing, but it'll make for some convincing pie charts. A quick internet search has revealed to me that some of the materials you need to make a spaceship (or express elevator to God, for the religious readers) are expensive. Apparently, if you don't want to make like Kuwait, you have to spend money on heat-resistant panelling.

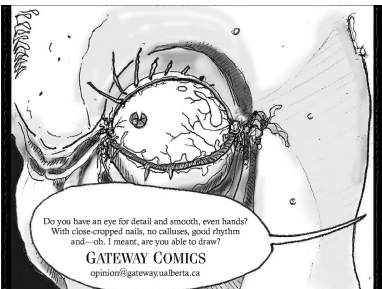
In light of this, we'll need to steal this statement from NASA. This is where you phys ed students come in. As "jocks," you've spent a lifetime studying the art of "pounding nerds." As NASA is chock full of nerds, your

bullying skills are the key to our success. It'll require many atomic wedgies and possibly a swifty or two, but I'm confident you're up to the task.

For the chemical side of things, you undergrad science students will need to steal materials from your labs. If you feel morally conflicted about stealing, consider this—that ethanol can either be used to fuel our rocket, or to accidentally light your lab coat on fire. Do you really want "Candle in the Wind" to be played ironically at your funeral?

As for Arts students, you may be wondering how your knowledge of political systems, or your ability to quote Oscar Wilde, helps. The answer is, they don't, but you have other abilities we can take advantage of. For starters, you Art students are the world's greatest naysayers. Odds are, if someone's attempting to do something, one of you is fucking naysaying and quoting Chaucer. It's your naysaying that will give the rest of us the urge necessary to fuel our drive to make this space program a reality. Also, as you're skilled in words, you'll be in charge of making our press releases sufficiently confusing and abstract enough that nobody quite knows what we're up to, and instead of trying to figure it out they just leave us be.

I know it sounds like a distant dream, but I'm confident that if we work together we can make this happen. And even if we pull an Apollo 1 or a Challenger, at least we went out knowing that we never let the sky give us any shit. And that's something you can write on my tombstone.



Do you have an eye for detail and smooth, even hands? With close-cropped nails, no calluses, good rhythm and—oh, I mean, are you able to draw?

GATEWAY COMICS
opinion@gatewayualberta.ca

Celebrating Future U of A Alumni

The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole Student Spirit Award

In memory of the late, The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole and her remarkable generosity of spirit, the University of Alberta Alumni Association created a \$7,500 award named in her honour.

This award will be presented to an undergraduate student who exemplifies the qualities that Her Honour valued and exemplified, including her legacy of caring for others, innovative thinking, creative leadership, motivating others, and making the world a better place.

"It's really exciting to have an institution support you in your academic and non-academic endeavors."

—Celeste Taylor, 2005 Recipient

Deadline for application is June 1, 2006.



The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole Student Spirit Award celebrates student spirit. The award is presented to a **fourth-year student** who has a good academic standing (minimum 3.0

GPA) and who is making the world—be it on campus or in the community—a better place.

The award is presented at the annual Alumni Recognition Awards Ceremony held in the fall during Reunion Weekend.

For more information visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni or contact the office at 492-3224 or 1-800-661-2593.



McCartneys don't have a clue about seal hunt

SCOTT
LILWALL



I suck at *Clue*. You know what I mean, the classic board game where players gather clues to discover who killed the unfortunately named Mr. Body. I always lost at the game, because I had a fundamental flaw in my playing style—I never waited until all of the facts were in before I made my accusation. I'd get a hunch on who committed the dastardly deed, and would prematurely make my predictions. And in the game, just like in real life, falsely accusing someone of murder-most-foul isn't looked upon kindly. My point is that my career as a brilliant detective was always cut tragically short because I couldn't stop from running my mouth off, even when I had no idea what the hell I was talking about (a habit that I have since transferred to the pages of the Gateway).

Luckily, I've found that I'm in famous company with this problem. Paul McCartney, former Beatle and current ex-Beatle, has caused quite a stir in the past week by publicly protesting the controversial Canadian seal hunt. Paul and his wife, Heather Mills, have taken part in photo-ops with the seals, and have been calling for a full international ban on the sales of seal fur—an industry that employs over 15 000 Eastern Canadian hunters. The McCartneys contend that the hunt is barbaric, and that the Canadian government could buy out the hunters to ease the loss of the income in

"... But what Paul McCartney has to realize is that he's a celebrity, and he has the ear of many, many more people than does an average schmoe like you or me. As such, before he goes off talking about a subject, it would be nice if he could, I don't know, gather a bit of accurate information?"

an area already stricken with high unemployment.

The issue here isn't really the seal hunt, which has been debated in Canada for many years, with valid arguments made by both factions. The question is, instead, much simpler: how the hell does playing in a British band 40 years ago make one an expert on the seal hunt?

Of course, you could argue that the McCartneys are like anyone else on the planet, entitled to their opinion on any subject that pleases them. And I agree—they can think whatever they want about the seal hunt. But what Paul McCartney has to realize is that he's a celebrity, and he has the ear of many, many more people than does an average schmoe like you or me. As such, before he goes off talking about a subject, it would be nice if he could, I don't know, gather a bit of accurate information?

The McCartneys' ignorance on the subject was revealed on Larry King Live, when the husband-wife duo got in to a heated debate with Newfoundland Premier Danny Williams, with the show's well-known host/rep/leaving to play referee between the two sides.

Williams argued that the seal hunt is humane, despite comparisons the singer-songwriter made between the hunt and the long-abolished slave trade. (Yes, that's right: slave trading.) Every comment made by the

premier detailing the laws that are in place to keep the hunt humane, and explaining that the statistics show the vast majority of animals are hunted in accordance with these laws, was shouted down by Heather McCartney (who was obviously drawing on the environmental expertise that comes from marrying a guy who sings really well).

Notably, the McCartneys have never come up with an answer as to what should be done when the seal population grows too large for its food source. (Even now, with the hunt still going on, the seal population has tripled since the '70s, growing faster than the fish the seals eat.) Will the McCartneys be so eager to have their photo taken with starving seals when their food source becomes overwhelmed by an unchecked seal population?

No one's going to say that McCartney isn't allowed his opinion. The simple point is that if he's going to go around on television and in newspapers calling the seal hunters barbaric and comparing them to slave traders, he should at least attempt to understand the relevant facts, instead of talking out of his ass. Just because you're famous, doesn't mean you know what you are talking about. And that's clear. As clear as Colonel Mustard in the Study with the Candlestick.

Wait, I mean, Miss Scarlet. Fuck. Professor Plum?



Students helping Students

**Student Loan Not Enough?
Thinking of a Line of Credit?
See Us First!**

Apply to the Access Fund for financial assistance.

The deadline for Winter II Applications is

March 29th

The Access Fund is non-repayable undergraduate financial assistance.



492.3483 | accessfund@su.ualberta.ca | 1-800-SUB

Students who are philosophically opposed to the fund can choose to opt out online at www.su.ualberta.ca/accessfund.

Pre-election analysis—the candidates stink

Filled with little more than vague promises, bad plans and meaningless jargon, the Students' Union presidential election campaigns are fair, at best



ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

After a week and a half of vague platitudes, hideous posters and generally uneducated promises from the people wishing to lead our Students' Union for the next year, the train wreck that has been the SU executive elections is finally pulling into the station. Most of the candidates that boarded just two short weeks ago will have been callously rejected by the quarter of students that actually vote, and sent back to become normal students.

Only the least mediocre members of this year's tepid candidate pool will be elected to keep the multi-million dollar organization that is the SU on track. Unfortunately for students, there have been few grand ideas or visions presented by any candidates, and little reason—beyond the two plebiscite questions—to actually make the effort to cast an informed ballot. This is a failing by candidates in every race, but the majority of the blame for the overwhelming apathy this year belongs to the three presidential candidates and their lackadaisical campaigns and mediocre platforms.

That Sam Power has run, such as a lethargic campaign is fairly surprising given that she alone of the three candidates has an idea of what being an SU executive is like. But instead of presenting big ideas and then making an effort to explain them to the student body, she's espousing vague ideas like "increasing advocacy" and "creating a more diverse campus experience"—ideas that don't resonate with students. For years, students have heard these buzz phrases and have seen little to nothing change.

Perhaps this just means that Power knows the limitations of the position and is unwilling to promise students the world, knowing that the president can't deliver. And, in her defence, at least she's proven some ability to perform in an executive position. But her platform is devoid of anything interesting enough to make students vote



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: LAUREN STELGITZ

FIT TO WEAR And for little else. Prusakowski thinks the candidates are weak.

for her, or even to pay attention to the election.

In that respect she's in good company, as Michelle Kelly's campaign is just as devoid of eye-catching promises. However, while Kelly sticks to middling, unexciting promises as much as Power, she has one—getting the SU to rejoin a federal advocacy group—that certainly doesn't benefit students, and might actually set us and the SU back.

Given that Kelly touts her experience within the SU at different levels, it's surprising that she believes committing the SU to groups like the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and Canadian Association of Student Associations is a good idea. She should be well aware that the SU withdrew from being federally affiliated because the advocacy groups are expensive—CFS especially, since it levies a fee directly onto students—and extremely ineffective because, under the Constitution, education is a provincial responsibility.

While Kelly seems to support wasting students' money, at least she's put forward a fairly clear platform for students to vote on. Regrettably, Greg German hasn't put forward anything that could even vaguely be described as an obvious, coherent platform. Instead, what supports German's campaign are formless clichés like being

"open-minded" and trite promises about creating a "vibrant student life" on campus or comments on his "experience" in student politics.

However, when German's experience is compared to that of his two opponents, he looks out of his league. Students need someone who's able to be effective, who can work with Students' Council to lead the organization, not someone whose hurried and inept attempt to get a faculty association membership fee floundered before students could even vote on it because it wasn't drafted properly. Given that the requirements were fairly clear, and that council even gave him several opportunities to fix the proposal, German looks unqualified to run a lemonade stand, let alone the entire SU.

In the end, students should always be wary of the promises made by people looking for our votes, and should think carefully before we hand over the conductor's hat for the SU train for another year. While this year, in some races, there might not be a large separation between candidates that are merely mediocre and those that are terrible, there's still a separation. It's in all of our best interests to be informed and skeptical when considering our options and casting our ballots, lest the new leaders go off the rails before they've even left the station.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Mandatory retirement is a natural complement to the North American system of academic tenure. Professors join the university having paid the cost of their own training, and take the risk of not being granted tenure.

The University (and society) benefit from this process, in that the professor will typically exhibit greatest productivity during the first ten or so years of employment. Without tenure, the University would have an incentive to dismiss the professor after this initial period. After the initial period of employment, and after tenure has been granted, the professor reaps the benefits of seniority compensation. Without mandatory retirement, the professor will have the incentive to "feed from the trough" indefinitely. The result would be limited faculty renewal and turnover. The average professor would be very much removed from the latest developments in their field. This would be a devastating outcome for a prestigious research university, though it might be alright for a local college.

Were the opponents of mandatory retirement honest enough to admit that their primary motivation is self-interest, I would have more respect (but not sympathy) for their position. This is an extremely divisive issue, and one with which the Supreme Court has already dealt. Let's keep the level of academic knowledge in the University as current as possible.

DICK BEASON

Professor, School of Business

Aramark not only option

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind List residents that there are other options available to students beyond Aramark food (Re: "Cafeteria conundrum," 2 March). No doubt many of you Listers pass through SUB on your way to and from class. On your way through, you have the option of using your hard-earned meal card dollars at almost all of the food vendors in SUB. You can get smoothies at Juicy, home-style entrees at L'Express, Subway sandwiches, donuts and coffee at Crum Dunk, stir-fry at Edo, halal dishes at Marco's Famous and pizza at Funky Pickle.

Judging by the popularity of the SUB food court, many of you are already taking advantage. You can also use your meal cards at RAIT and the PowerPlant, just not for booze (sorry, kids).

You also probably knew that all revenues go to funding student services, advocacy and maintaining SUB

for student use. Excitingly, come next September another option will become available as food service at the PowerPlant will be expanded; you'll be able to use your meal card at the buffet, from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday.

JASON TOBIAS

SU VP (Operations & Finance)

We shouldn't push fees on future students

I'd like to comment on Patrick Stratton's letter last Thursday, 2 March (Re: "I love PAC, and you should, too").

Mr Stratton writes, "We can vote for future students to spend \$40 per year funding a solid proposal to improve their lives on campus." I'm much less comfortable than Mr Stratton in forcing future students to pay for something without giving those students any choice in the matter. In particular, we will be saddling students 30 years from now with paying the same fee, but for a 30-year-old building. I don't think that's fair.

Mr Stratton also notes that, "Alternately, we can simply sit on our butts in Tory and allow the University Administration to raise tuition every year with no student support. We have the opportunity to do it ourselves and see progress." Considering that students will still likely vote against tuition increases in the future, I'm not entirely sure what Mr Stratton's getting at. However, our argument against tuition increases in recent years has been that they're unaffordable to a segment of the student population. By voting for the PAC, we will send a clear message to the University—students can afford to pay more. If we want to keep opposing tuition on the grounds that some students can't afford to pay more tuition, we should be consistent and not force them to pay more fees either.

MUSTAFA HIRJI

Manager, PAC, No Campaign

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise harmful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

free stuff



Who's that playing peek-a-boo with you?

If you're a fan of this guy, email contests@gateway.ualberta.ca for a chance to win a guest pass for two for a preview screening of

These Girls starring David Boreanaz

at Silver City on Thursday, March 9 at 7:00PM.

Why Northwestern?

We're Passionate About Your Future in Natural Health Care!

"The high quality of the professors at Northwestern is a huge strength! The professors are very straightforward about the amount of work that is required, but I know I will look back and realize that I learned from the best of the best."

— Chris Grier, chiropractic student, Student Senate President



NORTHWESTERN
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

2501 West 84th Street, Bloomington, MN 55431

(952/800) 888-4777, ext. 409 www.nwhealth.edu

Don't use the phrase, 'That's gay'

Unless it's having same-gender sex, it's not gay—please use the word correctly



KIMBERLEE
DERK

I enjoy a good insult. We all do, as long as it isn't directed at us. Watching the film *Chasing Amy*, I laughed when Jason Lee's character was referred to as a "fucking cuntbag." That's a good insult. It's offensive, it's amusing, and it's one of the few specialty hybrid insults that actually makes sense—as opposed to something like fuckard or dickwad. What's especially effective about calling someone a cuntbag is that it compares the person to something quite unpleasant.

And yet, there's a very weak insult that's surprising prevalent around campus, considering its absurdity. I'm referring to calling something or someone "gay." For instance, last semester during finals I witnessed a guy walk out of a classroom and exclaim to his buddy, "That exam was so gay!"

There has to be a better way to insult an inanimate object than giving it a sexual orientation. If the exam was unfair or difficult, just say so. But referring to a stack of papers as "homosexual" is absurd and unne-

cessary. Using "gay" as an insult is unimaginative and makes you look stupid. I know that every person who says "that's gay" isn't stupid, but, when I hear this phrase, I feel embarrassed for the person speaking.

As well as making yourself look like a moron, by using the term "gay" as an insult, you're also perpetuating discrimination against homosexuals. As I've mentioned, not everyone who uses "gay" as an insult is stupid. Equally, I know that not every person who uses this phrase is homophobic. However, by using the words "gay" and "fag" as insults, you degrade homosexuals.

For instance, last semester during finals I witnessed a guy walk out of a classroom and exclaim to his buddy, 'That exam was so gay.'

If it's true that at least eleven per cent of the population isn't heterosexual, there's a good chance that a gay/bisexual/transgendered/etc person may hear you calling your exam "gay." Such a person may be hurt by the misuse of the same word that has been applied to their sexual orientation.

You may be thinking, "It's just a phrase! This chick needs to calm down and get a life." You may believe that I'm over-thinking the use of the word "gay." And, well, you may be right. I am an English major after all, and there's a rare, strange and slightly masochistic breed. However, "think before you speak" is a basic rule for anyone hoping to communicate effectively. And I don't believe those who use the word "gay" as an insult are thinking about what they are saying.

Now, I understand the pervasiveness of "that's gay" in grade school. Tweens and teenagers will do nearly anything to be accepted by their peers. If this means buying \$200 jeans with bleach spots on them, wearing equally expensive extra-large G-Unit shirts and scorning everything and everyone as "gay," then I sympathize. Hell, I listened to Backstreet Boys in order to fit in during junior high—we all make mistakes when we're young. But, I'd like to believe that once we, as young adults, enter postsecondary education, we're able to think for ourselves. You no longer have to say, "That's so gay" in order to be socially accepted (at least, I hope not), so let's rid ourselves of this phrase altogether.

Besides, calling your prof a "fucking cuntbag" for writing such a difficult exam is far more effective than calling the actual exam gay, don't you think?

Haircuts aren't worth it—I'm done with them



ANDREW
NEWBORN

It's not biology's fault that we're all doomed to contend with expensive and unnecessary hair-care practices. I'm not sure what purpose evolution had in mind when it left us with these mops of fibres atop our heads, but it seems to me that the tyranny of the barber upon humanity is strictly self-inflicted.

A person simply doesn't need another person to obsessively hack away little bits of their hair; they could shave it off themselves. If I've learned anything from Captain Jean-Luc Picard, it's that a bald man can get shit done. I'll admit, it might take me a while to get used to bald women, but for the sake of humanity, I'll willing to make that sacrifice.

While I personally refrain from such treatments as dye, gel and conditioner (and have saved myself a lot of money, I might add), thanks to public pressure I have thus far made rare but consistent trips to that woebegone den of masochism, the hairdresser.

The rage that I have experienced visiting this particular establishment is deep and multifaceted. Typically, the stylist begins by asking how you want your hair cut—a reasonable enough start, I suppose. My answer is always simple and understandable: "Same style, only short." Somehow this is never good enough for the person who supposedly got an education specifically in cutting hair. Inevitably, they demand to know how much hair I would like cut off, in inches.

Now, I have only a vague idea of how long an inch actually is, and I certainly don't know how long my hair is, so I can never give a more specific answer. It seems to me, however, that the hair expert really ought to be the person

making these precise decisions. Not knowing the exact dimensions of your hair is apparently quite the insult to someone whose life is devoted to hair, and following this opening altercation my relations with the hairdresser are inevitably strained.

Following this, a person is left to endure what is probably the most uncomfortable session of small talk to take place in the retail world. For 20 minutes, as the hair-cut-maker makes their way across my head, I have to put up with whatever inane topic of conversation they may choose—they're the one holding the sharp object up to my head, after all. Sometimes this is pretty innocuous, though at other times I've been presented with stories of sex parties and descriptions of horrible, personal medical conditions.

It probably comes as no surprise that I typically go to the cheapest hairdresser I can find; still, the low point of the trip always comes at the

end, when payment must take place. Fourteen dollars is too much for a job that consists of haphazardly shearing material down to an arbitrarily determined length in the span of only 20 minutes. I was shocked to learn recently that when my friends visit their even more over-priced barbers, they actually tip the person who cuts their hair. This is apparently common practice. I truly cannot even begin to grasp this concept—tipping is taking place for what amounts to a round of mental torture and extortion.

It's for all these reasons that I have decided that my recent trip to the hairdresser shall be my last. Next time my hair becomes hideous and unmanageable, I'm just going to buy one of those electric razors with the adjustable settings, and attack the scalp myself. I recommend that for the sake of sanity, and in order to end the maniacal rule of the barber, everyone else does the same.

her dentures, a few seconds is plenty.

Another note: pulling two couches together to face each other—effectively forming some sort of disgusting love nest—is not romantic, despite what you may think. If the University wanted you to use the couches for spooning or reverse spooning (known in some circles as forking) they'd make them fold out into beds and cover them with thick plastic sheeting to be buried and replaced monthly. It's enough that we have to sit on those couches wondering what the colour-feld stairs are without having to also worry about contracting something that will follow us home and have its way with us for six to eight weeks.

GEOFF BRIN

THE BURLAP SACK

As a gentleman and a scholar, I feel the need to address a certain collection of people who are in dire need of a sack beating. If you're currently reading this newspaper over the shoulder of the girl sitting on your lap, it's likely you.

This sack beating goes out to the couples in SUB who make it their business to disgust everyone around them by taking public displays of affection too far. I, for one, know that when I sit down in SUB to enjoy my newly purchased doughnut, I don't wish to bear witness to someone lying on his back with his lady friend taking up residence between the folds of his legs.

Also, if you're going to kiss, make it short and sweet. Unless you're regurgitating your burger for her because she doesn't have teeth and smashed

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

Buy A Real Chair

Book Buy Back
All Year 'Round at SUBtitles

Main Floor SUB 492-9744 www.su.ualberta.ca

Postal Outlet
Main Floor of SUB,
Trade Subtitles

CANADA POST
Postage paid at
Edmonton, Alberta

Hours of Operation: September – April
Monday to Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

STUDENTS' UNION

Students' Council and GFC Nominations

Nomination packages are now available for Students' Council and General Faculty Council. Students' Council is the highest governing body of the Students' Union, and General Faculty Council is the highest governing academic body of the University. The following positions are available;

Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics
2 SU Seats
2 GFC Seats

Arts
9 SU Seats
8 GFC Seats

Business
3 SU Seats
3 GFC Seats

Education
4 SU Seats
4 GFC Seats

Engineering
5 SU Seats
4 GFC Seats

Law
1 SU Seat
1 GFC Seat

Medicine and Dentistry
1 SU Seat
2 GFC Seats

Native Studies
1 SU Seat
1 GFC Seat

Nursing
2 SU Seats
2 GFC Seats

Open Studies
1 SU Seat

Physical Education and Recreation
1 SU Seat
1 GFC Seat

Pharmacy
1 SU Seat
1 GFC Seat

Rehab Medicine
1 SU Seat
1 GFC Seat

Facultie St. Jean
1 SU Seat
1 GFC Seat

Science
8 SU Seats
8 GFC Seats

To download a Nomination Package or find out more about these positions, please visit the Elections Website or the Chief Returning Officer (Room 3 – 02K SUB)

The nomination deadline is Tuesday, March 14 @ 17:00

vute
WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/VOTE

SPORTS

sports@gateway.alberta.ca • Tuesday, 7 March 2006

Volleyball Pandas meet early demise in Calgary at nationals

ANDREW RINFREE
Mobile Sports Staff

The Pandas dreams of winning CIS gold turned into a pumpkin before midnight when they were upset in a 3-2 loss to sixth-place University of Montréal Carabins in the first round of the volleyball national championship.

Montréal came out strong, surprising Alberta 25-21 in the first set, which proved tough for the Pandas to overcome emotionally. The second went to extra points, but Montréal came out on top, 28-26. Alberta won the next two sets to force a fifth, but the Carabins won 15-13, quashing the Pandas' playoff hopes. The upset forced Alberta to settle for a disappointing sixth-place finish in the tournament.

"Montréal played a really great match," said Pandas head coach Laurie Eisler after the Pandas tough opener. "Obviously it's devastating, but we lost to a team that really played to win, and they earned it."

The early loss meant the Pandas had to settle for the consolation round, and they easily beat Windsor 3-0 in their second game to advance to the consolation final against Trinity Western. Alberta had a chance to finish fifth, but they were again disappointed, as Trinity Western won the close match in the final set. Despite the lacklustre finish, Eisler commended her players overall.

"We've had a really good year and I don't think that by any means did we underachieve," she said. "We came up a little short in the match of the year for us, but you couldn't ask more from the athletes than what we got."

The weekend was the toughest for Janna Konihowski, Tawana Wardlaw and Kristin Van Eck, who are all in their final years of CIS eligibility and played their last university volleyball game on Saturday.

"It was a tough tournament for us, but we kept fighting and playing with our hearts," said Konihowski, who was fighting back tears. She added that she'll take a lot from CIS volleyball.

"I've grown physically and mentally, and I've learned a lot from my coaching staff; they've really inspired me. I have no regrets; I couldn't have done anything differently."

Wardlaw said that, while the final game wasn't where Alberta had hoped to be, there was a lot of pride on the line.

"We've had a really good year and I don't think by any means did we underachieve. We came up a little short in the match of the year for us, but you couldn't ask for more from the athletes than what we got."

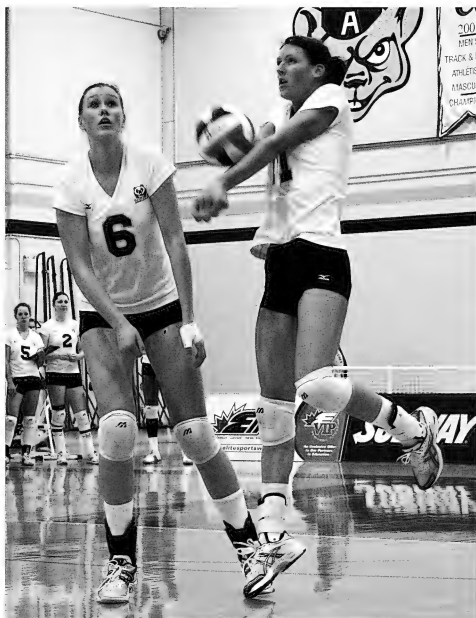
LAURIE EISLER
PANDAS HEAD COACH

"It's the last time you put on a jersey, so if that doesn't inspire you then I don't know what does."

The three departing seniors came to the Pandas after Alberta won six consecutive national championships from 1995 to 2000. Eisler says that they came to the program in a turnover year and filled a "huge void" left in the wake of the championship era.

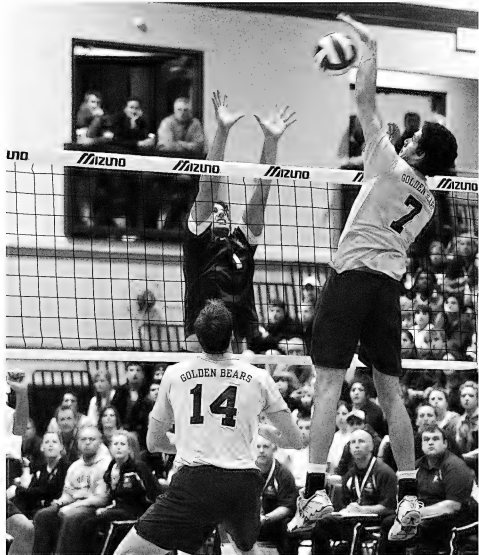
"They helped rebuild the program back into one of the top teams in the country, and for the last four years, we've been contending for a national championship," Eisler said. "There are only a handful of schools that can say that."

The top-seeded teams, Laval and UBC, met in an exciting gold-medal game on Saturday afternoon, where Laval topped UBC 3-1 to capture their first-ever CIS women's volleyball championship. Tournament host Calgary managed to get the bronze medal, a repeat of their placing last year.



HOPING FOR NEXT YEAR Tiffany Dadds' (left) and Amanda Atkinson's (right) seasons ended early. FILE PHOTO: WITVANGU

Bears volleyball team devastated by championship loss to Trinity Western



DERAILED Dallas Soonias (right) and the Bears volleyball team seemed invincible at times this year. BEAM/DEBORAH SCHLOFFER (LUP)

NO GOLD • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After losing the opening set 25-21, the Bears looked to rebound in the second, but Trinity was just getting started as they recorded a 25-8 victory in the second set, the worst deficit the Bears have suffered all season. With the championship on the line in the third set, Alberta trailed their west coast rivals closely early on, but Trinity pulled away at the 15-point mark, and ended up winning the gold medal 25-16 in the third set. Danyluk said that he'd never seen Trinity play as well as they did on Sunday.

"When you're 33-1, or whatever our record was going into the final, it's almost like you have an expectation that things will work. We set out this year to accomplish something, and that was to repeat. Maybe we put too much pressure on ourselves. It almost seemed that they were playing not to lose and they were playing to win; that made a difference."

Before the game, Trinity Western head coach Ron Pike said that his team would have to improve their serving to beat Alberta, and serving ended up being the difference in the end. Josh Howatson recorded two service aces, Steve Rogalsky notched three, and Chris Meehan had five, for a total of ten serves that Alberta couldn't return. The Bears, on the other hand, had none.

"They were hitting their serves as hard as they've ever hit them and they weren't missing at all today," Danyluk said.

"In the past, they haven't been all that consistent with their serving, but tonight they were consistent, and they were pounding the crap out of their serves," Danyluk added.

Danyluk said their season will be judged mostly on the loss in the final game, but he points to the successes of the season, including winning the Canada West gold medal, and beating some

of the top teams from the NCAA and from CIS. He said that the last three years have been very successful overall, as Alberta has won silver, gold and silver the last three seasons.

"When you're 33-1, or whatever our record was going into the final, it's almost like you have an expectation that things will work. We set out this year to accomplish something, and that was to repeat. Maybe we put too much pressure on ourselves."

TERRY DANYLUK
BEARS VOLLEYBALL COACH

"The whole season was great. We were a CIS powerhouse over 6 March, which was unfortunately the most important and valid game of the whole year," said Danyluk. "The most important thing, in terms of finishing, is how well you do on that last game, and we didn't pull it off."

Danyluk, along with Nicholas Cundy, Adam Sillery, Anthony Szkalutski and captain Leo Carroll played their last CIS games on Sunday. Danyluk said he'll look back on his CIS career with fond memories.

"Over last three years, we've brought back to the forefront that the U of A is one of the best programs in the country, and that's something I take pride in. Unfortunately, we couldn't follow through, and Trinity was the better team."



INSURMOUNTABLE Brian Ballman (right) and the Bears were too much for the Dinos to handle this past weekend.

Hockey Bears feast on Dinos in divisional playoff

Bears main Calgary in weekend sweep, will face powerhouse Huskies next

TREVOR PHILLIPS
Sports Staff

With the help of superior skating ability, precision passing and a strong attention to detail, the Golden Bears hockey team earned a decisive semifinal sweep over the visiting Calgary Dinos this weekend.

The convincing margins of victory put to rest any doubts people may have had of the desire of the Bears to earn their way in to the national championships. On the strength of 15 goals and eleven different goal scorers, the Bears out-skated, out-passed, out-shot and out-classed a noticeably tired Dinos club 8-1 on Friday night and then 7-4 on Saturday.

"We have a very proud group of guys, and when they come to play they're an awesome bunch ... There's a lot of great leadership and they know that once you put on the Golden Bears jersey you're going to have to bring your best game, regardless of the circumstances," said Bears head coach Eric Thurston of the team's approach heading into the weekend.

That very attitude seemed to propel the Bears attack, as they scored five goals in a span of 4:49 in the second period on Friday to go up 7-0, and then four straight goals with 2:55 to go in Saturday's game to seal the series. While veterans Brad Tutschek and Harland Anderson had four-point weekends, rookie forward Dylan Stanley extended his point streak to 20

games with two goals on Friday and two assists on Saturday.

When asked about the point streak, Stanley tried to remain focused on the task at hand.

"The leadership we have on this team and all the players from last year has been amazing. They've really taken care of us first-year's; it's nice to know what winning feels like."

**DYLAN STANLEY
BEARS FORWARD**

"I don't really try to think about it, because a point streak isn't going to win us a national championship," he said. "I like to help my team offensively, and if it keeps rolling, hopefully it helps the team produce wins."

Though Stanley admitted to some pre-series jitters, the calming and experienced influence of the team's veterans were important.

"The leadership we have on this team and all the players from last year has been amazing," he explained. "They've really taken care of all of us first-year's; it's nice to know what winning feels like."

Harland Anderson is one of those

players from last year that was a vital piece in the weekend goal fest. Despite being a reliable and steady passer for the transition game and a cannon of a shot from the point on the powerplay, the third-year defenceman showed off a bit of his offensive flare on Saturday. On two separate occasions, Anderson stickhandled through Calgary defenders creating scoring opportunities, netting the eventual game winner and earning first-star honors.

However, not everything was perfect, as the Bears penalty kill struggled against the talented Dinos powerplay. The Dinos went 4-6 with the man advantage and were a threat to score anytime a Bears' player was sent to the box.

"We were having a little trouble figuring out what they were doing," said Anderson, who noted that improving on the penalty kill will be important for the final. "That's something we're going to have to work on, especially since Saskatchewan has a great powerplay."

While the Dinos were certainly no match for the organized and calculated attack of the Bears, the Saskatchewan Huskies will prove to be a much more formidable opponent.

"I think it's going to be much the same as last time we played," Thurston said. "And knowing both teams take a lot of pride in working very hard, winning a Canada West title will be very important going in to nationals."

www.ualberta.ca/~pmsa

pmsa@ualberta.ca

Pre-Medical Students' Association



Are you interested in a career in medicine?

We provide a variety of services for pre-medical students. Check out our website

Poker Tournament March 12

"Did you see that article in the Gateway last week?"



Do you think you have that missing Z to the Gateway's X-Y? (Do you want to add your voice to the paper? Why don't you!) The Gateway is always looking for new volunteer writers, illustrators and photographers. Just come up to room 3-06 of the Students' Union Building or e-mail us at gateway@ualberta.ca. Hope to see you soon!

**NEED A
BREAK FROM
THIS SEAT?**



**LET LOOSE IN
THIS ONE!**



**GOLDEN BEARS & PANDAS SPORTS
YOUR UNIVERSITY YOUR TEAMS**

YOUR SEAT IS READY...

Golden Bears Hockey Canada West Final
vs. Saskatchewan

Friday 6 Saturday, March 10 & 11 at 7:30pm
Sunday, March 12 at 7:00pm (if necessary)
Clare Drake Arena

2006 TELUS University Cup Men's Hockey National Championship
March 23-26 • Student Ticket Packages Now on Sale

www.pandas.ualberta.ca 492.BEAR www.bears.ualberta.ca

GATEWAY SPORTS

It's safe to come to meetings



This guy's overseas until
January 2007

Meetings Tuesdays at 5pm
SUB 3-04



STRANGELY OUT OF SYNC The Bears struggled to get anything right on Sunday, while TWU could do no wrong. REMEX DESK/STHE SLMOUTTE (CUP)

Bears volleyball go out as a team

ROSS
PRUSAKOWSKI



Sports
Commentary

In Canadian sports history, there have been some powerful speeches. While names like Phil Esposito and Wayne Gretzky come instantly to mind, after their diatribes during the '72 Summit Series and 2002 Salt Lake winter Olympics respectively, perhaps it's time to add Ron Pike, the coach of the Trinity Western University men's volleyball team, to that list.

Though his name might not be familiar to most people across campus, let alone the country, his speech after his TWU Spartans were swept last weekend by the Golden Bears in the Canada West Finals was a thing of beauty. By describing the Bears as "probably one of, if not the best, at least in terms of individuals that have ever played together on one team in CIS," he put his own team in the underdog role and made Alberta feel the pressure as the favourites at nationals.

Whether this was an intentional mind game or not, it certainly worked, as the Bears came apart, playing their worst game of the season at this weekend's

national championship. Gone was the dominant squad that literally romped through teams this year, and had twice easily swept TWU, the second-best team in the nation. Instead, it seemed like the Bears had decided they didn't want to go to Hamilton (who does?) and had forced head coach Terry Danyluk to find a few doppelgangers to go in their place.

Mistakes became contagious, and Danyluk didn't have enough substitutions or players to stop the bleeding away of points.

Sure, the squad had managed to best McMaster and Dalhousie in the games leading up to the final, but given the talent level in other conferences, a girls high school team could have beaten those teams, too. But to show up and look like you're expecting TWU to just roll over and let you wait to back-to-back titles probably wasn't the best game plan for Alberta. Though, if there is one redeeming feature in the loss, it's that it was a team

effort—a terrible one, but still a team effort, since a few players having off days don't lose you sets 25-8.

Right from the opening serve, second-year Bear Alexandre Gaumont-Casas had one of his weakest efforts of the season and was both a defensive liability and an offensive pop-gun, as he missed set-ups that are usually routine kills for him. However, he was far from alone in that respect, as Dallas Soonias struggled to find the range with his serves and even libero Justin Wong had his weakest game defensively this season. In every set, once they got behind, the Bears just didn't seem to have the drive or ability to close the ever-widening gap, or to look dangerous. Mistakes became contagious, and Danyluk didn't have enough substitutions or players to either stop the bleeding away of points or to turn the tide.

There is no pretty way to say it: the Bears were simply horrible. They choked when presented with an opportunity to defend their title. That's not to take away anything from TWU, though, who likely played the best game of their season on Sunday afternoon. Pike may have billed the Bears as giants a week ago in the Main Gym, but should anyone be surprised that twelve young men from a Christian university were more than ready to play David to the Bears' Goliath come Sunday?

Where'd TSN's CIS game of the week go?

PAUL
OWEN



Sports
Commentary

Dear TSN,

I am writing to inquire as to the state of your CIS coverage this season.

Forgive me if I'm wrong, but I thought that with the success of your 2005 CIS championship season—the five-set men's volleyball final, the Carleton-St. FX men's basketball semi-final and the OT men's hockey final couldn't have given you more drama from which to promote a CIS schedule—that you had learned that Canadians care about more than just football. In fact, I was under the impression that there were talks in the works for a CIS "game of the week" leading into this season.

Yes, I am aware that there was a CIS game of the week during the football season; I'm also aware, however, that by not continuing this into the winter sports schedule, we were denying regular season matchups such as Alberta-Saskatchewan men's

hockey (number one vs number three in the country), Alberta-TWU men's volleyball (one vs two and not to mention, the competitors in the last two national finals) or UBC-Victoria men's basketball, and the annual Can-Am volleyball challenge, featuring the top teams from both Canada and the USA—and that's only in Canada West.

I know that the return of professional hockey has become your top priority this winter, but I'm sure there was still room to show CIS sports on, say, Saturdays? I mean, I'm sure that schools would be willing to hold their games in the afternoon instead of the evening if it meant getting national TV coverage, and you're not allowed to show hockey on those days anyways.

Also, it makes sense that ratings would be higher for national finals if viewers were to become acquainted with the players and teams leading into the finals, rather than just being introduced to them in a single two-hour broadcast.

Obviously, this is not all your fault. CIS has to do a better job at marketing their product and getting it on the airwaves. The old adage that you have to spend money to make money

applies here. There's a reason that the only commercials on TV during university sports are from universities: CIS needs to find themselves a title sponsor—something like Husky does for the aforementioned Can-Am challenge, which is presented without-franchise students—and needs to push their product onto TV. Even giving the product for free and just splitting ad revenues, something similar to what the NHL has done with NBC, would be beneficial to university sports than not having them on TV at all.

So TSN, why scrap the game of the week idea? Why deny Canadian sport fans a brand of volleyball, basketball and hockey that the average sports fan hasn't seen yet? Why not make the time available to CIS if they can get their act together finding title sponsors and attractive matchups? There must be a market for this; otherwise you wouldn't be showing the national finals. And if there's not, could you at least let the people at CIS know otherwise, so that they can start looking elsewhere for airtime? There's a channel here in Edmonton that shows traffic cameras half the day, and I hear they're looking for some new sports programming.

THURSDAY MAR 9
CHECK OUT ONE OF EDMONTON'S BIG UP AND COMERS

WHEAT POOL

9:30 PM • NO COVER
SLEEMAN PINTS 3.75

MONDAY MAR 13

GET YER BLUES AND BOOGIE FIX WITH

MR. LUCKY

10 PM • NO COVER
GRASSHOPPER PINTS AND TRAD BOTTLES 3.75

MARCH 13-18

St. Patrick's Week!

Dancers, Pipers and lots of good Craic!

A NO GREEN BEER ZONE for 8 YEARS!



10616-82 ave.
414-6766
www.obyrnes.com

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

Elections 2006



WHY SHOULD I VOTE?

The Students' Union is your voice. The leaders you elect will represent your interests to all levels of government, plan campus events, speak for you in the University community, and manage Students' Union owned businesses.

You will also have the chance to approve or reject two plebiscite questions - one for a new Physical Activity Complex Fee and a second for a Campus-Wide Tobacco Ban. Plebiscites are non-binding on the Students' Union, however they indicate to both the SU and the University the opinion of students.

It doesn't take long to learn more about the candidates and the plebiscites. Read through this Gateway supplement or stop by a candidate table - invest just a few minutes to make the right choice. The candidates you elect will work all year to make sure you get the most out of your University of Alberta experience, so take the time to make an informed decision.

WHERE DO I VOTE, AND WHAT DO I NEED?

There will be polling stations across the University of Alberta campus on Wednesday, March 8 and Thursday, March 9. Most polling stations will be open from 9 AM to 5 PM, but the SUB station will have extended hours until 7:30 PM both days.

In order to vote you will need your OneCard. No other form of ID will be accepted by the poll clerks.

For a list of polling stations and other election related information, please visit the SU Elections website.

Elections 2006

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote



PRESIDENT

The President is responsible for representing U of A students in the larger community and for the overall policy and operational direction of the Students' Union.



The Students' Union has a proud history of evolving and adapting to meet the needs of its members.

The SU has always been a strong advocate for students, and can point to a long history of accomplishments, such as building SUB and HUB Mall and successfully advocating for increased student representation at the Board of Governors and the General Faculties Council. In recent years, the Students' Union has created a number of new services such as Safewalk and the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre; established the Legacy, Access Student Involvement Endowment, and Campus Rec Enhancement Funds; opened new businesses (SUBtitles, the Empty Pocket, VIDS, and the Print Centre); renovated SUB twice; and helped advocate (successfully!) for reduced bus pass prices and for increases to the education tax reduction—and that's just a few of the things the SU has been doing for you!

Past SU Alumni include such persons as Peter Loughheed (SU President 1951-52), Joe Clark (Gateway Editor-in-Chief 1959-60), and a former U of A Dean of Law Tim Christian (President 1970-71).

MICHELLE KELLY

My name is Michelle Kelly, and I'm running to be your next SU President. I'm a 4th Year Arts student majoring in Sociology. I currently sit on Students' Council, and serve as VP External of the Arts Students' Association. In the past, I've been involved in the Students' Union as both an employee and a volunteer, and from my experience I have learned what is needed to take the Students' Union in the right direction.

As President, I will focus on:

Comprehensive Student Services

Increase accessibility
Extend existing services

Refocusing on University Lobbying

Prioritize student issues
Reassess University spending

Federal and Provincial Tuition Campaigns

Join federal lobbying groups
Provincial pressure for permanent funding

For more information, check out my website at www.ualberta.ca/~mkelly

If elected, my top priority as President will be to ... bring balance to the Students' Union's lobbying efforts and expand student services.

GREG GERMAN

The primary responsibility of the Students' Union must be the continuous improvement of the student experience. This means creating and preserving a vibrant student life on our campus through a variety of events and services. It means ensuring that our businesses and services are truly meeting the needs of their clientel. It means never accepting anything less than the highest quality of education. It means fighting for the rights of future generations of university students and advocating for the needs of those of the present. It means establishing strong relationships with our government and university officials to facilitate ongoing debates about the future of education. These goals can only be achieved through open-mindedness, flexibility and a continuous commitment to the betterment of our campus. As president, I will commit myself to these goals, as well as others that may arise, doing what it takes to improve your campus, and mine.

If elected, my top priority as President will be to improve the student experience and quality of education at the University of Alberta.

SAM POWER

With a new University President and years of provincial surpluses the time for students is now. For years, students have fought for tuition freezes, student loan reform, quality education and we have seen little advance. At the Board of Governors, in the Legislature, and in the media students must push their priorities first after years of neglect.

Since 1993, under-funding in education has been a case of provincial deficit. In a time of \$8 billion surpluses the government has no excuses. After a year of dithering on a post-secondary review, the time for answers is now. Students need to build public pressure, make the "Roll it Back, Ralph!" campaign province-wide, stay in the media and lobby every government member to ensure post-secondary answers are developed with students in mind.

The President must direct advocacy efforts to take advantage of these opportunities. The time for students is now. Visit www.sam-power.org

If elected, my top priority as President will be to ensure student needs become University priorities and government resolutions.

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

Elections 2006

The Vice President (Academic) deals with concerns and initiatives that are academic in nature, including things like teaching quality, university regulations, and textbook costs.

VP ACADEMIC



Students have academic concerns regarding the quality of their education, even at an "indisputably recognized" institution such as our own. The Students' Union and in particular, the office of the SU Vice President (Academic) is able to champion these concerns, working perpetually to address them and improve the general quality of the academic experience at this University.

I envision a well-rounded Academic

portfolio that combines a commitment to focused projects that have a direct impact on the quality of the academic experience of undergraduates at the University with a broader emphasis on a consistent and effective academic advocacy agenda.

If you're interested in reading more about my platform, please feel free to visit my website at www.amandaacademic.blogspot.com, or email me at

amhenry@canoemail.com with any questions you may have. My name is Amanda Henry and I am running for the position of Vice President (Academic). Thanks for your time.

If elected, my top priority as Vice President (Academic) will be to advocate for the effective fulfillment of the cornerstones of President Samarasekera's Dare to Discover document.

AMANDA HENRY



The Vice President (Operations and Finance) is responsible for managing the Students' Union's more than \$9,100,000 budget.

VP OPERATIONS AND FINANCE



I am currently a third year economics major with an extensive background in the business world. In the past three years I have founded and am presently operating two companies both of which are expanding and going strong. Novesta Enterprises Corporation (www.novesta.ca) (www.theridgeatcanmore.com) is a real-estate development company. Deuce Painting (www.deucepainting.com) is a small subcontract-

ing company.

Currently the SU relies on funds collected directly from the students via tuition fees for much of their budget. My platform revolves around the elimination of the SU's dependence on tuition fees. With a little long term planning, financial independence is more than possible if we maximize profits and actively invest in the future of the SU. Smart investments will not only be able

to eliminate the current SU fees but we will in time be able to fund even more services that provide for our undergraduates.

For more information see the Elections Website.

If elected, my top priority as Vice-President Operations and Finance will be to ... create a long term strategy that will lower tuition by eradicating the SU fees.

CHRIS CUNNINGHAM



Envision a Students' Union that is sustainable, establishes accountability, and is a credible organization; envision a Students' Union with Theresa Chapman for VP Operations and Finance (VPOF).

We pay \$10.3 million dollars per year in the form of Non-Instructional fees that are not held accountable by representatives of students. This needs to change.

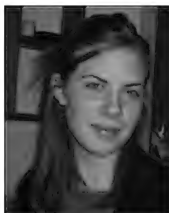
As VPOF I will:

1. Be personally accountable to fellow SU Members for my decisions
2. Hold accountable the use of Non-Instructional Fees
3. Establish work ethic and long term vision in the Students Union

For complete details on these goals or to ask questions: tchapman@ualberta.ca
Campaign tables around campus

If elected, my top priority as Vice-President Operations and Finance will be to ... increase accountability of Non-Instructional fees, and lessen the Students' Union's dependency on Student Membership fees.

THERESA CHAPMAN



Sustainability of the SU will allow for a shift of dependency from fees to SU business operations. As VPOF, I will achieve this by:

1. Balanced budgeting
2. Efficient use of personnel, monetary, and material resources
3. Credible and ethical business practices
4. HARD WORK

NO INFORMATION RECEIVED

CAM LEWIS

Elections 2006

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

VP EXTERNAL

The Vice President (External) is responsible for Students' Union relations with government and the larger community.

BLYTHE MORROW



Education is a right. Ensuring accessible education is a responsibility one that belongs not only to our governments and to the Students' Union, but to society as a whole. We must hold our officials accountable to this responsibility, just as we must hold ourselves accountable to it. The provincial and federal governments, the University and the

Students' Union must continually work together to ensure that education remains one of the number one priorities of our country. I believe in a strong and sustainable vision for the future of higher learning, in team work and strong working relations on and off our campus. The fight for students' rights must extend beyond University boundaries to ensure that

no student is turned away from a University due to their financial situation.

If elected, my top priority as VP External will be to ... facilitate effective communication between the Students' Union and all external bodies.

DAVE COURNOYER



Currently in my 4th year studying Political Science, for the past year I have worked as the External Researcher with the SU Advocacy Department. In this role, I have worked diligently to further the goals of the SU. My exposure to the system has motivated me to run for VP External and to show the government and the public the value of post-secondary education.

ter and encourage. I believe that for Alberta to achieve its greatest successes, education must be the investment for the future. Students deserve better than \$5,000 tuition and our institutions need to be properly funded.

As your VP External, I will use my experience to advocate for affordable tuition, financial assistance reform, and increased funding.

Thank You and I look forward to your support on March 8th and 9th.

If elected, my top priority as Vice President External will be to ... use my experience to advocate for affordable tuition, financial assistance reform, and increased funding

I believe that education is a public good, one that Alberta must fos-

For more information, visit davecournoyer.ca.

DAMINI MOHAN



I Damini Mohan, am running this year for Vice-President External. The portfolio of this position mainly calls for representing students' interests to the University and the Government.

As your elected representative, I would focus on:

To push for real funding solutions including a sustainable tuition policy, an increase in available grants, and elimination of the parental contribution requirement.

To develop powerful advocacy by ensuring that our advocacy department is appropriately funded, and that our campus and media tuition campaigns are strong and consistent.

To engage in student outreach based on open communication and strive to ensure the voices of all students, including students from Campus St. Jean, Augustana Faculty and International Students, are heard by the Students' Union, especially in policy making.

Should you have more questions regarding my platform, qualifications and experience, please feel free to contact me thru my website www.ualberta.ca/~dmohan or contact is available in pamphlets. Thanks for your cooperation.

My main priority would be to ensure that we have powerful advocacy and that our tuition campaigns are strong and consistent.

Student Government

One of Canada's strongest student associations, the Students' Union represents the 28,000 undergraduate students at the University of Alberta. A nine million dollar organization with hundreds of paid and volunteer staff, the SU is a powerful advocate for students and a major provider of student services. The SU also operates a number of business units, manages various targeted 'trust' funds, hosts a wide variety of entertainment and educational events, and runs the Students' Union Building.

All University of Alberta undergraduates are members of the Students' Union.

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

Elections 2006



University of Alberta Students' Union Elections 2006

VISION STATEMENT

The University of Alberta Students' Union seeks to be recognized as a world-class student organization. In pursuing this objective, the Students' Union will strive to be an effective advocate of student concerns in front of all audiences, a provider of valued and value-added services and support to its membership, and a responsible business owner and operator.

In addition, the University of Alberta Students' Union will be recognized for an ethical and values-driven democratic culture, as a responsible and accountable steward of its resources, and as an innovator and leader in the governance and pursuit of its mandate.

VALUES STATEMENT

The University of Alberta Students' Union holds the following Values to be paramount in the pursuit of its Vision.

- 1) Democracy - Our leadership receives its mandate from democratic institutions and practices; the spirit of democracy is a part of everything that we do. We are accountable to our members and electors.
- 2) Dignity - each member, employee, customer, and associate of the Students' Union is entitled to be treated with respect and consideration as long as they respect the dignity of others.
- 3) Equality - We pledge to treat all without prejudice and preconception. Each person is due to equal consideration, attention, and opportunity.
- 4) Ethics - In the pursuit of our goals, we are expected to act ethically, with integrity, and with due consideration for the impact of our actions and decisions on others.
- 5) Innovation - We endeavor to proactively seek new and better ways to execute the tasks entrusted to us.
- 6) Leadership - We are committed to showing the way, upholding the right, bringing solutions not problems and providing hope.
- 7) Security and Safety - the security and safety of our members, employees, associates and customers is a consideration in all our endeavors.
- 8) Rule of Law - The Students' Union recognizes the rule of law in all of our endeavors, relationships and operations.

SU Elections March 8th & 9th

Elections 2006

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote



STUDENT LIFE

SARAH KALIL



The Vice President (Student Life) is responsible for all non-academic aspects of student life, from working with residences to planning events like Week of Welcome.

Hi there! This is my fourth year at the U of A, and I am very proud to be a student at this university. The U of A offers some of the best student support in the country - but there is still much room for improvement.

I want to restructure the VP SL portfolio, to allow the Students' Union to more effectively advocate for students in non-academic issues. As it stands right now, students are poorly represented

on university administration boards that deal with issues such as health center fees and food prices. This needs to change.

Additionally, I want to give student groups increased access to SU resources, promote more student-directed programming, and create a much-needed parking registry to save students money.

For more information about my platform and experience, check

out my website at www.votesarah.ca, or email me at vote4sarah@gmail.com.

Vote Sarah for VP Student Life!

If elected, my top priority as VP (Student Life) will be to ... increase student representation on bodies that make decisions affecting the quality of student life.

AMANDA-LEIGH HANSON

NO
PICTURE

Ah University - experiences combine to enrich us. Fun is essential, but possible only if we fight for our right. This Student Life is a reckless beast, and a monster to control, so a few things need to be taken seriously. Lucky for you, I'm here to get my hands dirty and that means you can keep on truckin'.

As your VP Student Life, I will:

commit to organizing, promoting, and executing SU events with the professionalism and attention to detail required in maximizing their potential for enjoyment.

enhance communication between student groups and the SU, and improve groups' accessibility to SU resources.

investigate options available to students living in Residence

with respect to food services and meal plans.
strengthen and unify the campus community.
push to reinstate the freeze - student purpose is not to generate profits for universities.

Vote Hanson, your hands-on VP SL.

OMER YUSUF



I have spent three years directly involved with the student-directed committees of the SL portfolio that coordinate events such as WoW/AntiFreeze and work to improve the campus community by advising the VP Student Life on alternative campus programming and on important health issues facing students. I have also served two years as a Science Councillor for Students'

Council, and have been involved with Orientation for three years.

These experiences have allowed successes in the lighter side of the Student Life portfolio by taking part in a number of volunteer initiatives that work to enrich the quality of life on campus. Additionally, I've worked through committee and council efforts to address the more serious non-academic

issues regarding student services, environmental initiatives, health and wellness on campus.

If elected, my top priority as Vice President Student Life will be to ... create a progressive plan regarding service direction and non-academic advocacy.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors Representative sits on the University Board of Governors, the highest governing body of the University. They are responsible for setting tuition, managing University finances, approving new buildings, and setting the strategic direction of the University.

CHRIS SAMUEL



Hello, my name is Chris Samuel, and I want to be your representative on the Board of Governors.

My primary goal for my term as the Board of Governors representative is to gain student representation on subcommittees where we currently have no voice. As full voting members of the Board, bound by the same non-disclosure agreements, I find it highly disrespectful that we are not allowed

the same access to information as other members of the Board.

You might notice that my campaign lacks a physical presence. Since I am running unopposed, I will probably win. This is why I am running the first zero-dollar election campaign - to avoid unnecessary waste. Please do not mistake my lowered campaign visibility for a disdain of the electoral process - I am more than willing to answer any questions

students might have.

Read more of my platform: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~csamuel/bog.html> or e-mail me at chris.samuel@ualberta.ca.

If elected, my main priority as Board of Governors Representative will be to ... ensure students are represented fairly on the Board.

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

Elections 2006

A Plebiscite is a vote open to all members of the Students' Union on an approved question. The results of a plebiscite vote are non-binding.

Campus-Wide Tobacco Ban

My name is Shereen Kangarloo, I am the campaign manager representing the YES side of the proposed Tobacco Ban at the University of Alberta.

You have the opportunity on March 8 and 9th to vote in favor of a tobacco free campus. This would involve the ban of tobacco sales and use of tobacco products on campus. Currently in Canada, Dalhousie and Lakehead have comprehensive smoking bans. The University of Alberta Senate Task Force endorses the smoke

free policy at Dalhousie University and recommends that the U of A adopts an equivalent policy, including a total ban on all U of A property. The Edmonton School Board also saw the importance of a smoking ban when it implemented a no-smoking policy on all high school properties. Tobacco use and sales have no place in institutions that promote higher learning and a promising future. Each year in Canada over 45 000 people die prematurely from tobacco related diseases. According to AADAC current smoking rates

in Canada are highest among 20 to 24 year olds at 31%, whereas the national average is 21%. The YES vote will promote a healthier university and encourage tobacco reduction on campus. This is an important part of addressing the problem of tobacco addiction in our society. By voting YES for the U of A you will reap the benefits of a smoke free campus, while encouraging smokers to break this powerful addiction.



PLEBISCITE



YES

Physical Activity Complex Fee

Why vote to pay \$40 per year?

For only \$40 per year, you would have year-round access to a multi-purpose Physical Activity Complex (PAC) that includes:

A new 40,000 sq.ft. Fitness and Lifestyle Centre

Extensive Van Vliet Centre upgrades and renovations to locker rooms, activity and hall spaces
New indoor/outdoor climbing wall

An additional ice surface
Outdoor sport park

Conversion of the current fitness centre to a recreational gymnasium

Van Vliet Centre

Existing space within the Van Vliet Centre is inadequate to meet the needs of the current student body. This situation will be exacerbated as the 40 year old facility continues to age and the number of students increases.

Present and Future Demands of Students

The two most pressing needs to be addressed are the creation of a new health, wellness and fitness centre and a new ice surface linked to the Clare Drake Arena.

One goal of the University is to

enhance student quality of life through programs such as Campus Recreation. Space and facilities must be appropriately equipped, well maintained and conveniently accessible for students.

For only \$40 per year, one of the lowest student fees of all Canadian universities, the U of A can once again be a leader in providing an excellent student life environment.

Please vote YES for the PAC Fee on March 8th & 9th.



PLEBISCITE



YES

The University wants to impose a \$40 fee per student to pay for a proposed Physical Activities Complex (PAC). The PAC is a building still in concept and not yet approved. If built, it would contain staff offices, research labs, a new ice rink, and possibly a new fitness centre (Concept B). (Concept A instead converts a Van Vliet gym into a larger fitness centre.)

1. Yet another fee hike!
The University keeps raising tuition and fees to finance ballooning spending. You already pay \$107.96 in fees for unrestricted access to fitness facilities. You

should not give in to paying more yet again!

2. If students pay for it, students should own it!
Students will pay over 80% of the cost of the PAC. Yet students will neither own nor control any of it.

3. The University won't pay for it—why should we?
The University is building many new buildings—see all the cranes around? They won't pay for the PAC because it isn't important enough. Students should not cover the University's slack!

4. Building operations costs will force tuition increases.

A new building means more maintenance and more facilities costs. Tuition will need to rise to finance it.

5. Sets a dangerous precedent—next we'll pay for every new building!

Student fees never pay for buildings—even the government forbids using tuition to build buildings. If the PAC fee is approved, we set a precedent that students paying for buildings is acceptable.

Vote NO to the Physical Activities Complex Fee.
www.pac-fee.ca



NO

Elections 2006

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

VOTING
101**How Does a
Preferential Ballot
Work?**

A preferential ballot is where you rank the candidates for a given position based on your preference for the candidate. Your first choice for the position should be marked with a 1, your second choice with a 2, and so on. You do not have to rank each candidate. For each race there is also a "None of the above" option, which can be ranked just like a candidate. If "None of the above" wins a new election will be called for that candidate.

**How to Mark Your
Ballot**

Like most multiple-choice exams, you have to completely fill in the bubble that represents your vote, and make sure that the mark is black and there are no stray marks on the ballot.

Only completely shaded bubbles will be considered a valid vote- so mark your ballots properly to get counted

**Where Do I Vote, and
What Do I Need?**

There will be 20 polling stations across the University of Alberta campus on Wednesday, March 8 and Thursday, March 9. Most polling stations will be open from 9 AM to 5 PM, but the SUB station will have extended hours until 7:30 PM both days.

In order to vote you will need your OneCard. No other form of ID will be accepted by the poll clerks.


For a list of polling stations and other election related information, please visit the SU Elections website.

**Faculty Councilor
Elections**

In addition to the SU President, the four Vice Presidents and the Board of Governors representative, the Students' Union annual holds elections for faculty councilors. These elections will take place on March 23 and 24, and determine the composition of Students' Council, the highest body of the Students' Union as well as the General Faculties Council, the highest academic legislative body of the University.

If you are interested in running for Students Council or General Faculties Council please visit the SU Elections Website for more information.

Nomination Deadline - March 14th @ 17:00



Students' Union General Election, 2006

Notice to Voters:
In each race, please rank each candidate according to your preference by filling in the appropriate ranking circle for him/her.

- You are permitted to rank as many as all of the candidates or as few as zero for each position.
- "None Of The Above" shall be considered a candidate to be ranked.

A section of your ballot may be declared spoiled if any of the following is true:

- You have filled in the same ranking for more than one candidate per position. For example, you cannot rank two candidates for President as number 1.
- You do not fill in the number one (1) next to any candidate. You must specify a number one choice for any race you want to vote in.
- You indicate more than one ranking next to a candidate. For example, if you rank one candidate as both your first and second choice, your ballot will be spoiled.
- You have used non-consecutive numbers for ranking.

<p>President</p> <p>Ranking: 1st 2nd 3rd</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Pepsi</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Space Moose</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of the Above</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Pepsi	1	2	3	Space Moose	1	2	3	None of the Above	1	2	3	<p>Vice President (Operations and Finance)</p> <p>Ranking: 1st 2nd 3rd</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Tom Selleck</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pez</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of the Above</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Tom Selleck	1	2	3	Pez	1	2	3	None of the Above	1	2	3
Pepsi	1	2	3																						
Space Moose	1	2	3																						
None of the Above	1	2	3																						
Tom Selleck	1	2	3																						
Pez	1	2	3																						
None of the Above	1	2	3																						
<p>Vice President (Academic)</p> <p>Ranking: 1st 2nd 3rd</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Tom Selleck</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pez</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of the Above</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Tom Selleck	1	2	3	Pez	1	2	3	None of the Above	1	2	3	<p>Vice President (Student Life)</p> <p>Ranking: 1st 2nd 3rd</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Pepsi</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Space Moose</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of the Above</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Pepsi	1	2	3	Space Moose	1	2	3	None of the Above	1	2	3
Tom Selleck	1	2	3																						
Pez	1	2	3																						
None of the Above	1	2	3																						
Pepsi	1	2	3																						
Space Moose	1	2	3																						
None of the Above	1	2	3																						
<p>Vice President (External)</p> <p>Ranking: 1st 2nd 3rd</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Pepsi</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Space Moose</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of the Above</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Pepsi	1	2	3	Space Moose	1	2	3	None of the Above	1	2	3	<p>Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative (BoG)</p> <p>Ranking: 1st 2nd 3rd</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Tom Selleck</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pez</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None of the Above</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Tom Selleck	1	2	3	Pez	1	2	3	None of the Above	1	2	3
Pepsi	1	2	3																						
Space Moose	1	2	3																						
None of the Above	1	2	3																						
Tom Selleck	1	2	3																						
Pez	1	2	3																						
None of the Above	1	2	3																						

Referendum

Please refer to the Referendum Questions sheet for the exact wording of the Referendum, then indicate your vote here:

☒ yes
 ☐ no

Rank all choices consecutively

First choice only

First choice and second choice

One ranking for two people

Two rankings for one person

A gap in the ranking order

BFA, BDES students stay quiet on selling out



SQUEEGEE KID Students spent the weekend working on pieces to be put up for auction Thursday.

Student Silent Art Auction

Thursday, 9 March from 6:30pm–9pm
Third floor FAB

UZMA RAJAN

Arts & Entertainment Staff

You won't hear the cha-ching of a cash register, but money will be trading hands this Thursday in the acquisition of works of art—all of which were produced by Fine Arts students here at the U of A. The graduating students of both BFA and BDES programs will be holding their annual silent art auction to raise funds and awareness for their respective graduating classes.

"It's a great way to reach people who have different tastes in art," says Irene Harasemljuk, a fourth-year Bachelor of Design student and president of the BDES Graduation Society. "For those that don't necessarily like painting or sculpture, there's photography, there's industrial design, and there's a lot of great graphic designers."

Every year the graduating students hold this informal auction to both fundraise for their end-of-year show and raise awareness in the University community about what is going on in the Fine Arts Building throughout the year. Auction contributor and fellow fourth-year BDES student Lindsay Twerdool hopes that the University community will be receptive to their efforts.

"The program doesn't get a lot of attention within the University community, and there's a lot of exciting stuff going on that we want people to know about," says Twerdool, who notes that the response this year has been overwhelmingly positive.

Adrienne Lee, another auction contributor and fourth-year BDES student, believes that the informal atmosphere allows students to feel more comfortable coming to the auction. Harasemljuk agrees.

"We're a tight knit community in Fine Arts and we want people to know that we're approachable and not stand-offish or stuffy," she says. "So that's sort of the vibe we want to give off: art can be fun, art doesn't have to be serious."

The art auction has a wide range of pieces for the public to bid on or simply come and view.

From the mainstream mediums of painting and sculpture to the more abstract pieces that come out of industrial design and graphic art, the students this year have provided their audience with a large collection of pieces. The BDES and BFA Silent Art Auction hopes to attract a variety of potential buyers, and is aiming to make their show appealing to both the veteran art aficionados, as well as the relative newcomers.

"The art auction is a good way to please a lot of people, because it's not just geared towards one audience, or an audience that has a lot of money to spend on art," says Harasemljuk. "It could be your peers, people in University. And its great art because it's original, it's from up and coming artists and you can get it for a fraction of the cost it would be at a gallery."

Students of the faculty also hope that professionals in the community will come to check out the auction. "The industry is so much about connections, so it's kind of an informal way to meet professionals and show them [our work]," says Twerdool.

The students and organizing committee have been working on the auction since January, and while the main reason for the event is to assist the graduating class, non-graduating art students will be contributing as well, and the proceeds won't only go to the graduating class' Year End Show and Catalogue. Any non-graduating student or graduating student who contributes over \$100 worth of pieces will make a 25 per cent commission. For the independent students, it's a great way to get involved in the process of showing their art, and gain exposure for their work.

Whether you're artistically inclined or not, the silent art auction is one of the more unique ways you can directly support fellow members of the University community, and an even better chance to get a first-hand look at what is going on inside the FAB.

"This show will have a lot of fresher, newer work, because we've been working on it more recently and know what sells and what to expect," says Harasemljuk. "There are some great designers and artists that have amazing talent and the University should be supporting them because there's some great work that comes out of here."

16 Blocks a long walk for clichéd characters, mediocre story

16 Blocks

Directed by Richard Donner
Starring Bruce Willis, Mos Def and David Morse
Now Playing

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Entertainment Editor

As contrary as it might seem, bad movies can actually be quite good. Not good good, but almost everyone can manage to enjoy a somewhat mindless action movie. So long as it avoids beating clichés to death and doesn't have atrocious dialogue following it up, it's possible to make fairly solid film out of a simple premise. Unfortunately, *16 Blocks* isn't one of those films.

The film stars Bruce Willis as the bitter and getting-on-in-his-years New York City cop Jack Mosley. Mosley is charged with a simple task that would seem at the outset as quite difficult to screw up: move state witness Eddie Bunker (Mos Def) through the titular 16 blocks from Lower Manhattan to the courthouse where he is set to testify to a grand jury.

Shortly into the trip, however, Bunker enters a liquor store and quickly becomes the target of hired killers set to prevent him from testifying against the defendant, a New York City detective. Backup arrives in the form of Frank Nugent (David Morse), Mosley's ex-partner and the officer in charge of the accused detective. Nugent soon tells Mosley that he is set to have Bunker killed before he testifies, and tries to enlist Mosley in the effort. Mosley, a cop who

would otherwise bend his morals for such a plan, has a last-minute change of heart and sets to guide Bunker through the 16 blocks standing between him and safety.

This doesn't really sound like that bad of a movie. Films can take a formulaic route and still come out as a relatively entertaining product, but *16 Blocks*, while rife with elements necessary for an action movie, takes itself a too seriously and uses, not necessarily too many clichés, but too-prevalent ones to really rise to being a solid thriller.

The characters themselves are also too stock to take seriously, which is one of the film's biggest faults. Bruce Willis, who had an admirable performance in *Sin City*, has shifted from interesting to bland. While in real life an alcoholic, down-on-his-lack cop would actually be a dynamic and complex individual, the onscreen equivalent often amounts to nothing more than movie review fodder. Once Willis' character embarks on this "redemption of Jack Mosley" scenario, the outcome of the movie really can't come to a surprise for anyone—no matter what that ending is. Survival, death, sacrifice or practically any other ending can be spun to have a heroic sparkle.

And corrupt cops? I don't know; I suppose they're as good as any other antagonist that they could use, but in a cop movie it's just the final cliché driven into *16 Blocks*' coffin. It isn't that it doesn't make sense or that you don't develop the appropriate dislike for the characters, but there is an overriding feeling of, "Man, really?" that taints the picture. Mos Def, who usually



adds talent, or at least comical elements, to his films, also comes off as slightly annoying and lacks the usual flair that he brings to his performances.

It isn't that *16 Blocks* is a terrible movie, or even a bad movie, but it's definitely not everything it could have been. Director Richard Donner hasn't necessarily made the most fantastic movies with some of his last projects, but

if he brought at least a little bit of the imagination that went into bringing the stories of *Timeline* or *Conspiracy Theory* to the big screen, *16 Blocks* could have turned out as a decent action-thriller. You can have a good time watching this film, but if you go in expecting more than a by-the-books cop story, the time it takes to go 16 blocks will seem like nothing compared to getting through the movie.

Best Summer Job You've Ever Had!

CAMP CARIBOU, a summer residential boys camp located in Maine, has openings for summer employment. We have an amazing opportunity for you to teach, coach, mentor and have an incredible summer working with boy's ages 7-15. The positions offer a competitive salary, a travel allowance, room and board. If interested, visit our web sites at <http://www.campcaribou.com/staff.php>, call us (508)358-5050 or email us at info@campcaribou.com to learn more about the Caribou experience and apply on-line.

MOVIE POSTER SHOP

10% discount with this ad

Music Posters
Ready-made Frames

8126 Gateway Blvd
439-0408

The Academy smiled upon Reese Witherspoon on Sunday night for her portrayal of June Carter Cash in *Walk the Line*.



Felicity Huffman wept inside. Not for the loss of the Best Actress statue, but for the total lack of nominations for *The Splendiferous Zepplin Escapades of Filliam H. Muffman*.

This ad was paid for by
GATEWAY A&E
an organization at arms
length from William H. Macy.



Not enough people saw that movie.



IT'S A BLOCK PARTY, BITCH! Despite the praise being given to *Block Party*, production of Chappelle's *Show* is still in limbo.

Rocking the party that rocks the *Block Party*

Dave Chappelle's return comes in his well-received music and comedy show

Dave Chappelle's *Block Party*

Directed by Michel Gondry
Starring Dave Chappelle
Now Playing

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Dave Chappelle has been an elusive figure over the past year. After departing abruptly to South Africa to clear his head after the rapid blockbuster success of Chappelle's *Show*, Dave is back in the spotlight with *Block Party*, an extravagant shindig he threw for himself on the streets of Brooklyn in late 2004. Blending music, comedy and an honest look at inner-city America, *Dave Chappelle's Block Party* just might be the definitive hip-hop documentary of our time.

The film—more than just an inside look at the concert—chronicles the organization, rehearsal and execution of the party. Chappelle funded the project with his own money and had a major role in putting the whole event together. This included everything from getting people to come to rehearsing with the bands, and it's in this that Chappelle's humour and ability to relate to people really begins to shine through.

Passing out free tickets for his concert to people on the street, Chappelle manages to convince elderly ladies, ordinary citizens and even a university's entire marching band to come. While rehearsing with the bands, he continually cracks jokes that leave the members in stitches, a likely result of perfectly timed timing, which the movie shows Chappelle practicing with the help of Mos Def on drums. This, along with his easy-going approach to comedy, makes him naturally funny, as anyone who's watched his standup can attest. Still,

Chappelle seems more reserved here and his humour isn't as biting as in his show or his standup. However, he hasn't lost his edge, and the movie shows why he's still one of the best and most charismatic comedians around.

Block Party is an entire entertainment package. The good-natured yet sharp humour of Dave Chappelle combines with both the musical energy of the artists performing and honest sociopolitical overtones to create a film that never takes itself too seriously, but never loses its focus ...

More than just a story about Dave Chappelle, though, the music in *Block Party* is an arrangement of some of the best hip-hop available. With an all-star lineup that includes Kanye West, Talib Kweil, The Roots, John Legend, Dead Prez and Kraykrah Bada, among others, *Block Party* is like a mini Woodstock for modern hip-hop, evidenced by the enthusiasm of the crowd who braved the rain to attend, as well as all of the musicians who seemed equally enthusiastic to be able to take part. It's always refreshing to see artists performing for free, as it often seems like an entirely different musician comes out when they're making music for the hell

of it. Kanye West opens the concert with quite possibly the most powerful performance of "Jesus Walks" caught on tape, setting the momentum for the rest of the concert. Hip-hop legend Big Daddy Kane jumps on stage in the middle of a performance and gets the crowd pumped up, and the concert ends with a landmark performance of "Killing Me Softly" by the Pugees, their first performance together since 1997. Even for those who aren't hip-hop fans, *Block Party* is an excellent showcase of the real talent alive in the genre.

More than just a concert, *Chappelle's Block Party* is a statement on race and equality in America. Chappelle's comedic forte is his ability to make fun of racial stereotypes without preaching or offending, and *Block Party* works on this strength. Chappelle and several of the artists speak openly about inequalities that are still present between races in present-day America, and how difficult it can be to expose them in today's society. The concert, in contrast, portrays a subtle yet powerful image of fairness and equality for all. While the crowd is predominantly black—a fact that Chappelle jokes about in one scene—it's clear throughout that all people are welcome to have a good time, regardless of background.

Block Party is an entire entertainment package. The good-natured yet sharp humour of Dave Chappelle combines with both the musical energy of the artists performing and honest sociopolitical overtones to create a film that never takes itself too seriously, but never loses its focus, propelling an above-standard music documentary into a strong and unique testament on the common ability of both comedy and music to unite people.



THE ACTION STARTS HERE

BE AN ORIENTATION VOLUNTEER! POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- Orientation Leader
- Bridge to the University Orientation Leader
- My Undergraduate Group (MUG) Leader
- Pseudo-MUG Leader
- Orientation Program Assistant
- Orientation Presenter
- Computer Session Coordinator

Application Deadline is Friday March 10, 2006.

Applications are available online, at the Centre for Student Development (CSD), and HUB, CAB, SUB, and ETLIC Info Desks. For more information, please contact Robyn Ferguson at ovc@su.ualberta.ca

www.su.ualberta.ca/orientation





Most Serene Republic rides success as national headliners

After supporting Metric earlier this year, Canadian indie-rockers go across Canada and to South by Southwest in Austin, Texas

The Most Serene Republic
with *The Acorn* and *In-Flight Safety*
Wednesday, 8 March at 8pm
The PowerPlant

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

For a group of musicians calling themselves The Most Serene Republic, you'd think tranquil personalities would reside within each member's peaceful soul. You might expect thoughts of building a Utopian society would be on every to-do list, and that sanity would, indeed, be omnipresent in all words spoken. In fact, with a moniker like The Most Serene Republic, you'd never suspect that anyone would get even the slightest bit out of control.

"It's a great thing to take a band with you and help them out. That's what I think one of the many tasks of a band is ... We're just people getting them a stage and giving them a slap on the ass, like a little teeny baby. You know, a 'go and dance for me' kind of thing."

ADRIAN JEWETT

"What makes The Most Serene Republic so serene is anything but. That's right. The Most Serene Republic is anything but," concludes the band's frontman Adrian Jewett. "I mean, if we were just The Most Serene Republic, we'd all sit around, smoke weed, and have sex with each other. As people, we're not so serene.



THE NOT-SO-SERENE REPUBLIC The Milton, Ontario natives admit to not being nearly as Zen as their name suggests, displayed here at their last Edmonton show.

We're very hyper and we get excited very easily."

Although their moniker might suggest otherwise, the indie-rock sextet has fabricated a fair share of crazed moments in their day, with some being generated on their current tour. The Milton, Ontario natives—consisting of Jewett, Ryan Lennsen, Nick Greaves, Andrew McArthur, Adam Nimmo, and Emma Ditchburn—are travelling across Canada for the very first time as headliners, and as a result of this newfound responsibility of playing an hour and a half and bringing other bands in tow, a new degree of excitement and insanity has

definitely been reached.

"It's a great thing to take a band with you and help them out. That's what I think one of the many tasks of a band is: to help others spread what they want to communicate," says Jewett. "We're just people getting them a stage and giving them a slap on the ass, like a little teeny baby. You know, a 'go and dance for me' kind of thing."

The Most Serene Republic's thoughts are, indeed, in the right place, even if they might be a bit off now and again. After the release of their album *Underwater Cinematographer* in July 2005, the band decided to record another EP, entitled *Stages*, which

would only be available during their tour. According to Jewett, this limited edition collectible is the group's way of saying thanks to their fans.

"With *Underwater*, we did it for ourselves; it was just us seeing into a wall so we could hear it bounce back into our ears and enjoy it," Jewett explains. "With *Stages*, the wall was knocked down ... it was more of a us-write-music-for-others. Kind of thing. I mean, it's our gift to society and we feel like it's the only thing we can give."

But even though the Arts and Crafts recording artists are currently busy showering us with their unconven-

tional love up here in Canada, come mid-March they'll be happily tormenting our poor American neighbors at the South By Southwest music festival in Texas. We can only hope, though, that they don't get themselves into too much trouble.

"I'm excited to hear the accents on the men and the women. It's going to be so interesting!" Jewett laughs. "They've got that, 'Hey ... where ya boys frommm ... are ya guys in a baanaad? Ya guys are in a baanaad aren't ya? You play the munusical on the guiliitar? I can plaay you a little sonning ... ' You know, that kind of thing."



Catch Zed

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
11:25pm on CBC Television**



zed.cbc.ca

Short Films, Documentaries, Music... lots more



cbc.ca

Zed Pub Night!

at The Room at Top
Thursday, March 9th, 5pm - 12:30pm
7th Floor, Student Union Building
University of Alberta

**Zed Prizes
and Giveaways!**



zed.cbc.ca

**Coriograph Theatre
Molt**

**TransAlta Arts Barns March
10 & 11, 8 PM**

bwde
brianwildeanddancecompany
SEASON 2005/2006



Tickets available at Tix on the Square
(780) 420-1757 or www.tixonthesquare.ca

Citytv

SPACE
MUSIQUE
90.1

Edmonton

+

Granville
heritage

Parkland
conservatory

MACEWAN

information
arts
council

theatre
company



Janiva Magness

Do I Move You?
Northwest Blues Music
www.janivamagness.com

ADAM GAUMONT
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Janiva Magness' latest release, *Do I Move You?*, is her fateful sophomore album, the bane of many an up-and-comer's existence. Luckily for Magness and her listeners alike, this album is anything but a flop—that anyone who's heard either album knows that luck is hardly a part of her formula for success.

Rather, the formula looks something like this: hook up with a big-name producer/top-notch supporting musician (Colin Linden), a well-respected independent record label with the Midas touch (Northwest Blues Music), add heaps of sultry vocal talent (none other than Janiva Magness herself) and relentlessly tour the festival circuit to establish yourself on the musical radar.

As with her previous album, *Do I Move You?* deftly blends classics such as Willie Dixon's "Workin' on Me Baby" and the Nina Simone-penned, title track, along with contemporary tunes such as Delbert McClinton's "You Were Never Mine" and Colin Linden's "I Give Up."

Magness' own musical abilities, a fusion of old-fashioned soul and club-scene energy, are perfectly suited for the task, making for another must-have album from the LA-based blues smith.



Goldspot

Tally of the Yes Men
Union Records
www.goldspot.net

JONN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

For OC fanatics, Goldspot may sound familiar to them. The Los Angeles-based quintet's first single, "Time Bomb" was featured in a January episode, and after listening to their premier effort, *Tally of the Yes Men*, it's easy to see why it was picked for the show.

Belting out melodic, new wave-tinged indie rock, Goldspot sounds remarkably tight for a group of newcomers. While none of the songs really attempt to do anything new or exciting—and the majority of them are quite similar in structure and sound—the band is good at what they do: writing and performing catchy tunes, of which *Tally of the Yes Men* has several. As far as the new wave influence, the poppy, electronic-inspired sound is obvious on a few of the titles, like "It's Getting Old" and "Cusp", which both happen to stand out as the best tracks.

The album does have its faults, which manifest mostly in the grating moans of the lead singer that come too frequently, but they don't detract from the overall catchiness of the album. Once the band grows up and steps outside of the safe boundaries, they set for themselves on *Yes Men*, Goldspot could go from OC phenomenon to fully respected band.



Slave to the System

Slave to the System
Spitfire Records
www.slavetothestystem.com

JONN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Slave to the System (STTS) might best be described as Audioslave-lite. Since Audioslave is already Rage Against The Machine-lite, that makes STTS some kind of fraction I can't even comprehend. Unlike Audioslave, however, Slave to the System fails to ever hit a creative note on their debut album.

Formed from members of '80s prog-metal kingpins Queensryche and '90s rockers Brother Cane, STTS never comes close to the musical talent of either of their former bands, with the one exception being their ability to pose for album covers. The band reach their uncreative highpoint on the generic hard rock opener "Sigmata" and never come down. The sad thing is that while they aren't terrible, they're also painfully standard in their songwriting, perhaps due to the fact that the album was written and recorded in three weeks, resulting in power-chord-chugging guitars and lyrics from the hard rock Mad Lib collection.

While potentially talented, Slave to the System will have to do better than what ended up on their debut record if they want separate themselves from the plethora of other bands that sound exactly the same.



She Wants Revenge

She Wants Revenge
Geffen
www.shewantsrevenge.com

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

There's something truthful about *She Wants Revenge's* self-titled debut album. While many modern rock out-

fits have picked up the electronic new wave sound to produce catchy and original music, *She Wants Revenge* uses hypnotic droning and raw synthesizers to highlight their brutally honest, and somewhat disturbing, lyrics.

Instead of shying away from alarming topics, the band slices itself open, revealing an undigested viewpoint of unmemorable music. Songs like "Red Hags and Long Nights" envelop the listener with a stark portrayal of life, while others like "Tear You Apart" explore the fine line between love and violence.

She Wants Revenge's album doesn't follow convention, and it certainly steers away from many of the all-too-standard alt-rock motifs. As long as you can handle piercing the façade of everyday life, *She Wants Revenge* is worth a listen.



Chantal Chamberland

Dripping Indigo
Independent
www.chantalchamberland.com

LACINA DESJARLAI
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For all you lovers out there, a new CD has hit the market that's set to replace the Barry White on your shelves. If you want to lure your girl/boyfriend, or that special someone you met in CAB into bed for a night of sweet lovin', this CD is all you'll need. Just pop it into the

stereo and let Chantal Chamberland's smoky, deep voice work its magic.

Dripping Indigo lets Chamberland, a Sinatra-esque crooner, recreate the soulful, love-inspired melodies of the jazz and blues artists of the past like Cole Porter and Duke Ellington. Each of the tracks is creatively interlaced with the typical jazz duo of saxophone and trumpet and sweet background piano; just the thing for a night of romance.

However, if chemistry homework, rather than your chocolate-covered significant other, is on the menu for the night, don't pop *Dripping Indigo* into the CD player or you'll likely end up wasting time on a musically induced nap-time halfway between the Periodic Table and electron valence shells.

While Chamberland's melodies prove to be sweet, they seem best suited to a romantic restaurant. Any other situation and the smooth jazz that comes from *Dripping Indigo* will likely leave you dripping with boredom—and unfinished homework.

free*
Domino's Pizza

*when we do your student taxes Not a valid coupon.

\$29.95*
student tax
preparation



Get a coupon for a **free medium Domino's Pizza** with student tax preparation.*

Come in today or call 1-800-HRBLOCK



H&R BLOCK

**Love it or hate it, you can't avoid it.
Here's the annual Students' Union election**



POSTER SLAM '60

Since the earliest days of the University, when young minds first roamed the halls of this fine institution, there has been one unifying event that has bonded the generations together: SU elections. It's not clear if the posters that once adorned the walls of the many corridors on campus sucked so many years ago, but if time is any measure, things have only gotten worse.

Yet since the Gateway has been conducting its annual poster slam, an interesting snag has presented itself: the posters have gone from merely sucking, to now being boring as well. Perhaps this was caused by us, the paper that relies on the crappiness of these promotions for comedic effect. The fact that candidates know they will be mercilessly ridiculed surely has taken its toll, as the posters for 2006 are safe, uninteresting and green (for the record, 43.75 per cent were green). Yet the candidates haven't gotten off that easy, though, as the Gateway has once again assembled a crack team to tear apart the campaign paraphernalia.

This year's panel consist of **Mike Larocque**, a veteran campaign coordinator best known for the now-infamous "Graham Lettner eats babies" smear campaign; **Iris Tse**, a design snob who learned all there is to know about poster design from her secret collection of N'Sync and O-Town posters; **Scott Lilwall**, Deputy-Head of Campaign and Election Materials Analysis for the Can-West media empire; and **Phil Head**, whose recent acquittal from punning someone to death has allowed him to assist in the critique.

Photo illustrations by Tara Stieglitz and Lauren Stieglitz

VP (Academic)**Amanda Henry**

Phil: As far as Amanda Henry goes, I have a "hunch" that her campaign didn't have the "backing" of even a "quasi"-competent photographer. She has much to learn about political "posturing."

Mike: Do we even know if she has an actual hump-back?

Phil: She doesn't—I checked. You can't make jokes about actual hunchbacks.

Scott: "Continuity, Commitment, Confidence." Not really saying much, but I appreciate the alliteration.

Iris: Continuity? Is she saying that she's going to be the same as last year's VP Academic?

Mike: Indeed. And I would expect "commitment" and "competence" from any candidate worth voting for. Advertising those traits on a poster seems to me to be saying the equivalent of "I don't suck."

Scott: You know, coming back to the photo on her poster, it really is particularly bad. It looks like she showed up late for her own photo and had to dive into the frame.

Iris: It sort of looks like a family photo, now that we're talking about it. It looks like there is someone sitting next to her who was cropped out. Not only that, but the cropping job is terrible.

Phil: How hard is to screw up a square?

Mike: This design is really is sketchy all around. The "vote" text isn't even centred on the grey bar behind it. I can appreciate that she might have not gone to the extreme with these poster as she's the sole candidate, but some of this just looks sloppy.

Scott: I think this poster undermines her claims of "competence."

VP (External)**Damini Mohan**

Phil: She wants students to "Get Heard!" but not seen, apparently, as she totally blends into the background. I think this would be a good time to point out the terrible brightness and contrast levels on almost all of the posters. Natural skintones are not present here. The whites of her eyes should be white.

Mike: You figure it wouldn't be too hard to find someone who knows how to use Photoshop. I would assume that "not looking terrible" would be a primary concern when designing a poster.

Scott: It looks like she's standing in front of a carpet. I feel like I'm supposed to look past her and find the magic picture.

Mike: A lot of these photos make it look like the candidate met the photographer in a hallway between classes. Come on, people. How hard is it to stand next to a doorway, or something at least somewhat not stupid, like a wall that is likely in the absolute oldest part of the University?

Iris: "Engage in Satellite Campuses" sounds awesome, though. The U of A really doesn't have enough orbiting classrooms.

Blythe Morrow

Phil: One might say that her design is "blithely" competent.

Mike: There really isn't too much to make fun of in the design department: it's actually quite professional, if boring.

Phil: The skin tones are correct here. It looks like someone who knows how to press a shutter button took it.

Scott: It's her quotations that bother me. "We must hold our government accountable?" Wow, that sure is a brave and totally not-at-all-obvious stance against the also popular platform of not holding the government accountable.

Iris: Definitely controversial.

Mike: If you're going to put a paragraph below a headline, it should have more information than the headline itself.

Phil: Overall, it's boring, but not horrible.

Scott: Yeah, very mediocre.

Phil: Considering what we're working with, mediocre is good for these guys.

Dave Courmoyer

Phil: Apparently he thinks "VP (External)" means he has to be outside. Although I must say that the depth of field in the photo makes it not too distracting that there are all the trees in the background. At least he has the bravery to use a non-green colour.

Mike: I like this photo the best. It's bright and focused. Considering the photo crap-fest we've been looking at so far, that's enough to put you at the top.

Scott: I'm kind of getting a font overload here. Cursive on a campaign poster? There is a lot to take in.

Mike: There is a lot of text, but he redeems himself somewhat in that his non-green poster might actually get some people stopping to read it. I think it's the most appealing of the VP External posters. It's not really "wowing" me, I have to say, but I like the colours, and it has enough information to make him look like he might know something about the job.

Scott: For what he has for a poster, it has some substance to it.

VP (Operations and Finance)**Cam Lewis**

Mike: I really don't know where to begin with this poster. I didn't know there was a joke candidate in the running. This has easily got to be the worst picture of all the posters. Holy fuck, it's Cam Lewis!

Phil: What kind of a camera did he use to take that? It's the most out-of-focus, pixilated picture I've ever seen. I'm surprised he had the courage to put that on his poster.

Mike: What is with his face? If you're going to have a close-up, you might not want to have weird Photoshop-jazz around part of your face. Seriously, there's some sort of goo that runs up his face to his glasses. Either it's a terrible Photoshop job or he actually has some sort of greasy film on his face.

Scott: A VP Ops-Fi who has a protective coating could be an advantage ... you never know when a protective outer coating would come in useful. Personally, though, I like the "I Will Take Care of Your Money." It's nice to know that he's ready to do the bare minimum this job entails.

Phil: Is he going to take care of it in the mafia sense, like, "take care" of it, or is he going to school, make it lunch and do its laundry. Then again, laundering isn't really a good thing when you're in charge of finances.

Mike: I wonder if he knows that the job involves more than sitting in front of the door to a bank vault while you polish a shotgun. He could be in for a world of surprise.

Iris: I like how he paid to have colour but only put two red lines in the poster. At least make the heavily pixilated checkmark red! By the by, that's the assist checkmark ever. Get a designer who knows the difference between a vector image and a raster image.

Scott: Yes ... of course. Raster. Ahem, anyway, you don't need colour when you have a protective film, but that doesn't hide that the picture is fuzzy and rippled at the bottom. The photo is ugly.

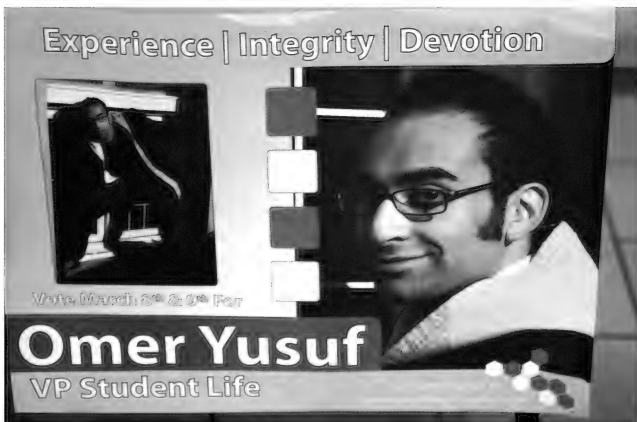
Mike: I like how "I Will" is the biggest part of the poster. If your bold platform is take care of our money—whatever that means—you might as well put "take care of your money" in bold. With the size of that close-up photo, I already know that he's the one who's going to be doing it. Man, this is an ugly poster. I mean, what are people going to take away from this poster when they pass it in the hallway? "Cam Lewis: he Will!"

Theresa Chapman

Phil: Here we have Theresa Chapman, who actually has several checkmarks and the most distracting background in the history of distracting backgrounds.

Iris: Also, it's "Students' Union," not "Student Union." If you can't even get the name of the organization that you want to work for correct on your poster, then, well, you suck.

Mike: The most glaring thing here is the picture. Did



no one actually arrange to have a picture taken for their poster? It looks like she's sitting in someone's kitchen.

Phil: At least it's red.

Scott: Or half of it, anyway. It averages out to orange, I guess.

Mike: Besides the terribleness, it's boring. People have gone very boring this year, and a lot of students aren't going to know the candidates. The posters are about letting the students know who you are, and I'm not going to remember Theresa Chapman.

Chris Cunningham.

Phil: Here we have Chris Cunningham, who's going for the Kevin Spacey look, circa *American Beauty*.

Iris: It's a catchy design, though. You'll stay and look at it. Which is good, because the words are ridiculously small and hard to read.

Scott: Also, it's not green or red, which is refreshing.

Phil: It's in the elusive number of posters that are neither of those colours.

Mike: See, I can get behind that. I like voting for minority candidates.

Scott: It's a very nice design overall, which makes it all the more tragic that it's one of the smallest posters we have.

Mike: I can appreciate that he obviously took a nice picture for this poster. He's wearing a collared shirt and a tie, generally looking not-creepy and lacking any visible head-film.

Scott: I would buy a car from this man. He just gives me this warm feeling.

Phil: And he can do nice Photoshop things, like adding drop shadows.

Iris: That's not really that hard. Or nice looking.

Phil: Maybe not, but judging from the other posters, using Photoshop is a dying skill.

VP (Student Life)

Sarah Kalil

Phil: Out of focus, bad background, and the most

clichéd pose possible. Her single strand of hair looks like two hairs; that's how out of blurry it is. You might say that her design lacks focus, or that her campaign is hazy.

Mike: I like the low-cut shirt. She's brave enough to shamelessly play up the sexiness. That's the type of courage I want in the SU.

Scott: She looks almost too coy, like she did something malicious. I think she did something bad. "Vote for me, I killed your cat. You just don't know it yet."

Mike: Oh, she did something bad alright. She's been a really bad girl. Vote Kalil.

Scott: I don't understand the jersey font.

Mike: Well, she's going for VP Student Life. She has to be all about sports, and the U of A, and pep rallies and—school. I'd also like to know what's up with the barcodes. Historically, people and barcodes have never had a positive association. It's always negative.

Scott: So you think she's going to shave our heads and give us all barcode tattoos?

Amanda-Leigh Hanson

Mike: This slogan really speaks volumes: "Set Your SU on Fire." I'll just give a minute for that to set in.

Phil: Apparently she's appealing to the pyromaniac in all of us. It's clear, though, that she has a burning desire for politics. Maybe she's hoping to appeal to the more flaming members of the student body?

Scott: I want to know where the fire is coming from. Is that a cigarette or a magic wand?

Iris: I'm not sure if she's supposed to be pro-smoking or pro-magic.

Phil: And serious fun? I hope that's an intentional paradox. I'd ask her, but she has a Mike Tyson-esque, "I'm going to eat your ear" sort of look.

Iris: And what is with her blogspot website? Spring for the bandwidth and get an actual website.

Mike: She's definitely baring some teeth, and the scary photo isn't even centred in the flame. The thing I hate the most is the forced pun of "Hanson = hands on." They actually walk you through the joke, which pisses me off. Next!

Omer Yusef

Iris: You know he's in Sciences because of all the hexagons in the corner.

Phil: Are those benzene rings? Is that the structure for heroine? It looks like the formula for heroine.

Mike: That would make him qualified for VP Student Life.

Scott: I'm an Arts student, so I don't what the fuck it means, but it makes him look intelligent to me. Not that that really helps his run for Student Life, though.

Iris: The picture of him by the window makes it look like he's trying to escape after a one-night stand, or he's committing petty crime. Or both. So much for the integrity part of his campaign.

Scott: To me, it says that this guy will sneak into your room in the middle of the night in order to represent you in the SU.

Phil: He'll get your vote even if he has to mug you.

Mike: It strikes me like he was really close to having fun with this poster, but wasn't really sure what to do so he put a picture of himself acting sort of sneaky on it and called it a day. He might be doing something sort of crazy, but we're leaving it ambiguous. "Omer Yusef: He's up to something." This lot has been disappointing actually, because VP (Student Life) is where I want the posters to be a little zany.

Anti-smoking

Phil: Best design of all of them is the pro-smoking ban posters. Nice design, and the red type actually adds something, unlike the "take care of your money" guy.

Mike: It's nothing amazing, but it's the most effective without being stupid or boring.

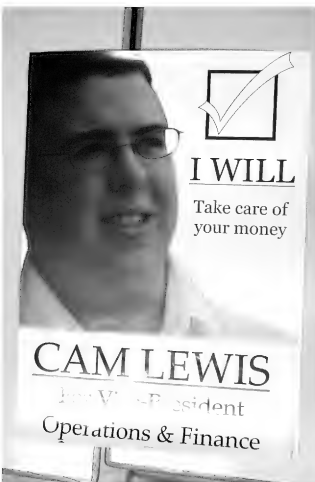
Phil: The posters are pretty, shall we say, smoking?

Scott: Dear God, Phil. I don't know if I'm going to make it.

Iris: Am I the only one who doesn't like the design? There's no skill in aligning everything in the poster to the centre. I also don't get the cigarette on the Butterdome. It's butting out; isn't that a good thing?

Mike: It could be suggesting that cigarettes are trashing our campus.

Scott: Cigarettes on butter. Nothing is worse than that.



PAC

cheap? Or maybe she simply loves U of A webspace.

Iris: One of these appears to be anti-PAC, and the other is purely informational. They're basically the same poster with a slightly different message. If it's the "no" campaign, they should be leaning more strongly in that direction.

Scott: I'm really not sure what they're arguing for. They start by talking about the new facilities, and then just throw in that students are paying 80 per cent of the cost.

Phil: I'm not sure where they're going with the crane. It's lifting up a dollar sign; are they saying that it's lifting the cost, or suggesting high construction costs? You can't really tell without reading the poster, and only one of the two posters tells you. This display might cause you to crane your neck as you walk by, but it's fairly boring.

Scott: Phil, God help me.

Mike: I wouldn't even stop and read this poster. Onwards and upwards.

President

Sam Power

Iris: As a participant in last year's poster slam, I'd like to point out that this is the same basic poster used last year, but with a new picture. Good to know that Sam has taken our advice and used a much better picture.

Phil: Frankly, I think this is a very powerful design.

Mike: I'm surprised of the lack of references to the episode of the Simpsons where Homer changed his name to Max Power. She's the woman with the name you want to touch—but mustn't touch!

Mike: It's square, though. It's the only square poster, which I dig.

Phil: Empower, push, pressure, renew, restore. Her headers sound like wrestling moves.

Mike: Or straight out of *Captain Planet*.

Michelle Kelly

Scott: More green!

Phil: Nice picture, non-distracting background, and it's in focus. Man, are we not expecting much from these things.

Iris: She also used her U of A webspace for her website.

Mike: So does she love the school or is she just really

Scott: That's for the voters to decide.

Iris: What is that in the corner of her poster?

Scott: A piranha plant? You know, from Mario?

Iris: No, that's a wingding from Microsoft Word.

Scott: So that's totally random? Oh. That's what I want in a president: totally random.

Mike: What is she doing with the capitalization? She capitalized "Prioritize Students," but didn't capitalize "issues."

Scott: The words are all pretty empty anyway. Increase accessibility? There should be a lot more substance to what a presidential candidate is putting forth in their posters.

Phil: She's not really giving me any reason to vote for her. Except for the teeth.

Mike: She does have really nice teeth. White, straight. Yup.

Phil: She'll win the dent/pharm faculty for sure.

Scott: Now I can't stop looking at them. They're cute.

Greg German

Phil: It's funny, I didn't know that there was an independent slasher flick coming out called "Elect Greg German."

Scott: "Greg German is a tough cop on the edge who has just come up against the biggest case of his career. He'll face startling revelations about his murdered wife—if he can survive!"

Iris: This guy is straight out of an American Eagle advertisement. He even has a popped collar.

Mike: Yeah, if American Eagle was trying to appeal to the drug dealer/undercover-cop-drug-dealer demographic.

Scott: He looks like the kinda guy who's going to increase accessibility—to cocaine on campus.

Mike: This poster has the very things that you would think common sense would prevent. A black background that envelopes the picture in a dark smog? What is that?

Scott: The look on his face makes me think that someone was about to take his picture when someone else yelled something that made him look away, like, "Hey asshole, you can't park your car here!"

Iris: I think he should team up with the sneaky guy who looks like a burglar, Omer Yusuf. They could be a wacky, crime-fighting duo.

Phil: Nothing could beat the tough-as-nails president with the wacky VP Student Life.

Mike: I hear sitcom.

Iris: The other posters looked like there was thought put into them but they came out boring. This one just has his name and not even a website to look up his campaign information. You know, if you're trying for the Graham Lettner/Roman Kotovych I'm-not-putting-any-campaign-material-on-my-poster-because-I'll-let-my-picture-speak-for-itself approach, you actually need something better than a surveillance tape photo to pull it off.

Scott: I think we're giving him too much credit. Maybe his platform is so bad he doesn't want anyone to know what it is.

Mike: No information is good information? This smacks of a last-minute job. I can imagine German putting this together after playing Tetris online all night and then realizing at the last minute that he was totally screwed.



WORST

Phil: My least favourite is the "I Will Take Care of Your Money" guy.

Iris: Greg German's poster, while rife with unintentional humour, is really shitty and has no thought put into it. My least favourite, hands down.

Scott: Kali's. I can't pick out one thing about it that bothers me the most; the poster is worse than its individual parts. I can't put my eyes on it without it pissing me off somehow.

Mike: For worst I have to go with Phil for Cam Lewis. Once I noticed the Photoshop gunk on his face, he was dead to me. I recommend everyone go and look at the stuff right now. Well, read to the end, then go look at it.

BEST

Phil: I think we can agree that they're overall fairly mediocre, but I think it's a tie between Blythe Morrow, Chris Cunningham and Omer Yusuf.

Iris: I like Yusuf's. Maybe it's just the sneaking out of the window thing that really caught my eye. I really relate to that.

Scott: On an emotional level, I like the "I'm Going to Take Your Money" guy and Greg German. The unintentional hilarity in what is a bleak wasteland of boring posters is what did it for me. I feel like I know Money Guy and The Slasher, but in terms of competence I have to go with Power and Cunningham.

Mike: My vote for best goes to Sam Power. It's a clean poster and it has a focused picture of the candidate looking normal. I'll add that it doesn't really excite me, but in a vast sea of bad posters, this is the piece of wood I'm clinging to.

Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '06

Feature by David Berry
Photos by Matt Frehner, Phil Head, James Storrie and Nick Wiebe



uuddlr!rbass If your life ever depends on someone beating Contra, call Chris Samuel. Seriously.

If you've halfway paid attention this election season, by now you know what the candidates think. You know they want to lobby people, or sit on committees, or make the PowerPlant a better place. But there are a lot of things you can't learn about a candidate from pretty posters, rehearsed speeches and bullet-pointed campaign literature.

In some effort to acquire this knowledge, I spent the election campaign following around the candidates. I watched them speak at classes, I watched them speak at forums, I went to their meetings, I talked to their volunteers, I talked to them. I had coffee, RAIT food, beer, "Plant food and a weird juice/pop mixture." I played *Contra*, I watched them dance, I know each and every one of their favourite movies.

Here, then, are my results. I've gotten to know the candidates. I've ignored their platforms, I've ignored their past records: these are the people behind the candidates, as far as I know. I don't pretend absolute authority, but I'm also not levelling judgments: these are observations, to the best of my ability removed of personal opinion. You'll decide which of these people will be running your government next year, hopefully on more factors than just this. But, at the very least, consider this one more leaflet to read, and one more perspective on which to base your choice.

Thursday, 16 February

More or less the first phrase out of Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woyonowski's mouth is a reminder that if the candidates do not attend this, their first candidates' meeting, in its entirety, they'll be disqualified. The fact they have to make attendance to the first official meeting mandatory is some indication of the amount of pure, unadulterated fun this group of 14 will be having over the coming weeks.

Somewhere near the front of the room, a group of old-time SU hacks gathers, as happy, as my grandfather used to say, as pigs in shit. They lord over the nervous batch of prospectives, content both in the knowledge that they don't have to run one of these campaigns, and even if they did, they'd do far better job than the commoners sitting at the table in the middle of the room.

The lone exception seated at the table is Board of Governors candidate Chris Samuel. A sixth-year math student, Samuel has been with the SU in some capacity or another for five of those years. He's a member of the infamous (to student politicians, of course) Hack Club 7, a group of seven misguided individuals so hopelessly devoted to the Students' Union they not only came up with a cheesy name for themselves, they regularly mention it with a barely contained pride. He doesn't so much like student politics as needs them, lest the clear light of day reveal that he hasn't actually taken a math course in about three years (to be fair, he did finish his major early).

Of course, with that experience comes poise, and Samuel is probably the most dynamic and easy-going of any of the 14. He has an effortless style behind the podium, and his

enthusiasm is honest, evident throughout the campaign week, whether he's classroom speaking or absolutely obliterating *Contra* (I died twice as much as him, easy).

As for the meeting, though, the threat of disqualification has to be the only thing keeping these people in their seats—well, that and the seemingly deep-seated need to nitpick. The only thing more scary than the anal-retentive questions that come up like clockwork is the fact that, if they didn't clarify whether or not they needed to inform the other candidates if they were going to talk to a table in HUB, for instance, somebody would probably complain when it did happen. After about an hour and a half of this behaviour, the meeting comes to a merciful end, and the candidates shuffle out, bad jokes in tow, worried about the poster design and classroom speaking to come.

Monday, 27 February

Reading Week passes, the campaign begins. Those on top of their game slap posters up almost immediately after the 9am start, covering every available non-painted surface with smiling faces. It has begun, for real this time, and every candidate you see looks not like they're caught in the headlights, but that they're being ruthlessly stalked by a truck. If ever you were going to mercy kill someone, this might be the time.

Some hide it better than others. Despite a bout of nerves that occasionally pokes through, Michelle Kelly seems as collected and cheery as if she was eating ice cream. Her exterior misleads a lot of people: self-admittedly, she can turn on a kind of bubbly air that seems to give some the impression that there's more bubbles than soap, so to speak. Beneath that, though, is a person of remarkable calm, someone who's comfortable with who they are, though not without a touch of sass (seriously, that's the best word). She's also surprisingly candid, especially since I was the one who was drinking when we talked. I'm generally suspicious of anyone who likes Dave Matthews enough to just call him "Dave" without a second thought, but the common bond she shows with a South African-American rock star belies something central to her personality: she likes being around people.

In that respect, she couldn't be more different from fellow presidential candidate Sam Power. It's not that Sam doesn't like being around people, just that she has a kind of grave shyness, though too often can be mistaken for aloofness, which keeps her at an arm's distance. Once she puts her hand down, though, there's a smart, serious maturity to be found, a person of strong convictions and clear thought, as well as a sense of humour so subdued as to be imperceptible if you're not expecting it. Of any of the three candidates for president, she's the one least likely to ever be a politician outside the student arena: though she certainly has the will and knowledge, I think she'd rather kill puppies than gadman the electorate, and she didn't even like me joking about kicking dogs. She's also terrible at pool, though she assures me I'd have lost, old-school, if we went bowling.

Continued on the next page



Somewhere between the two of them lies Greg German. Easily the most self-assured of the three, he still dances a line between earnestly wanting to talk to you and being aware that he should guard his own personality, something I expect most politicians learn early on. He's a natural talker, though, and seemed fairly good at winning people to his side once he got their attention; he claimed to be nervous about the forums, but it never came through. He hopes to pursue a medicine degree, but campaigning seems to be more in his element: he seems most comfortable trying to get a group of people to believe what he believes, and while it doesn't necessarily always work, it seems as though he's content just to try, even if he might not realize it yet. He also has an uncommon interest for *Pumping Iron*, the 1977 documentary about Arnold Schwarzenegger's bodybuilding days, which I don't think anyone has ever admitted to me before.

As for the day, it ends with the candidates' meeting, where problems are discussed and warnings handed out. They're told to stop putting posters on painted surfaces, and to set up their campaign tables. Bad jokes abound once again, forced laughter ensues. This meeting is mercifully short, but the first day of campaigning still ends with a whimper.

Tuesday, 28 February

The first candidates' forum. Groups of mildly interested francophones sprawl out on couches and chat over sandwiches in the Campus St-Jean cafeteria. A lone microphone sits unobtrusively at the centre of a half-circle of chairs, each filled with a different set of fidgeting hands and shaking legs. This is the first real test of the candidates: not only do they have to get their platform out, they actually have to be interesting about it. This is why most people don't become politicians.

It's certainly not what Blythe Morrow wants to be doing. She got better over the course of the campaign, but she never appeared as comfortable up in front of people as she does one on one, where her smile is more frequent and her natural friendliness more forthcoming. She seems eternally outgoing away from the stage, someone who knows a staggering number of people and is probably likes most of them, too. She's enthusiastic, but while she's generally well-prepared, her politician clothes don't fit quite right yet, and every so often she trips over something she probably meant to be smooth. It adds a certain humanity to her, though, and while it probably bothers her a bit, she doesn't let it affect how she's talking to people. Her laptop's name is Aidan, after a boy she once had a crush on; she laughs about it now, but she does still readily give the name when asked.

Dave Courmoyer doesn't strike me as one to name his laptop, although even if he did, he probably wouldn't have remembered it had I asked. Not that he's forgetful, by any means: he's just so focused on his campaign, I assume he probably couldn't have given me his mother's name. Perhaps the hardest working of a committed group, it seems as though he hasn't thought anything but election for at least two weeks now. The result is a concentrated nervous energy, an earnest, dead-eyed commitment so ingrained he seemed almost surprised when I asked him what kind of music he likes. There is a reserved appreciation of life outside the political underneath his determination, and I expect he'll be more relieved than some when the campaign's done and he can let off. He'll be right back to work on Monday, though.

Then there's Damini Mohan. In an ideal world, more of our politicians would be like her. She isn't as trained in the SU as either of her competitors—neither of whom are stalwarts—and she's the type of person who isn't especially comfortable talking to one person she doesn't know, let alone a room. But she's running because she saw something wrong and wanted to fix it, even if she's not in the same position as the other candidates; she's the type of rare U of A student who cares, first enough to think that something's wrong, then to try to do something about it. She's also a terribly sensitive soul: when she talks about human rights, it actually seems to hurt her that things aren't as they should be, and she didn't even like to use the phrase "kill two birds with one stone."

The forum ends up being lacklustre. Only one question comes from the floor, and the back part of the cafeteria mostly just chats before cutting out about halfway through. That might be for the best, though: had this been Myer Horowitz, none of the above might have swept the election. By the end of it, though, everyone is a bit easier in their skin, and ready for an earnest push.

Wednesday, 1 March

Now this is campaigning. Eager candidates rush from classroom to classroom, trying to convince everyone in V-Wing at 10am that they should vote Quimby, so to speak (I'm told a good average is three classrooms per break, which I didn't believe possible until I actually watched it happen). The student-to-poster ratio is probably about 4 to 1, and bag tags and leaflets clutter tables across campus—does any of these self-centred votemongers care about our trees? Not in practice, anyway.

Of course, they have graver concerns at the moment. Chris Cunningham—who, admittedly was fairly sparse with paper usage—acts a little biased about the election, and I believe him when he says that if he doesn't win, he'll still get by, but inside him is an obvious desire to be on top of whatever he's doing. He mentions his businesses because he's honestly proud of the fact he built them—the sort of innocent pride you have when you show your parents your very first finger-painting. That said, there's very little childlike about him: he is driven, focused on the goals he has set out, and does all that he can in pursuit of those goals. He's honest that he's running for the job because he thinks it will be a valuable experience for him, and he thinks he can do a good job of it. Of any of the candidates, he's probably the one most likely to have a building on campus named after him—because he'll donate the money to build it.

Theresa Chapman, on the other hand, has a young soul. She has a kind of childlike exuberance, and it's maybe the most unassuming candidate I talked to. This isn't to suggest she spends her time watching cartoons, though she'd likely enjoy that: she's also quite earnest and a remarkably hard worker. She got involved on campus because she saw an advertisement in her orientation package, but several people called her one of the most eager councilors of the year, and devoted to her job. She genuinely likes people, and she's honest because it would never occur to her not to be. She couldn't quite remember her favourite quote when we talked, so she actually looked it up and e-mailed it to me, just so I would know.

Cam Lewis was slightly less forthcoming. Possessing a kind of

nervous shyness, he never quite looks comfortable talking to anyone he doesn't know. Underneath, though, is a booming, inclusive personality; the mayor of a small town, ready to cut ribbons. He's laid back, perhaps the least high-strung of any of the candidates, though his care is apparent. Above all, he likes being involved; I'm certain all the candidates do, but I think he's probably the only one for whom it's the greatest motivation to run. All the same, he'll probably be more comfortable once the race is over, whatever the outcome. He has an almost endless supply of jokes, of varying degrees of quality.

The day ends with the Lister forum, probably more futile than St-Jean: observers from Lister are easily outnumbered by candidates and their supporters, and constant mic problems mean all but the loudest are hard to hear. I violated journalistic objectivity to be an asshole, partially just to break up the boredom. People better start showing up to these things.

Thursday, 2 March and Friday, 3 March

The campaign hits the halfway point, and the candidates are beginning to find the terrible jokes at candidates' meetings earnestly funny. They're running, I believe, on coffee and their own sense of self-satisfaction, though the latter is disappearing. Lesser people would have stayed in bed—I would have heartily endorsed any one of them who would have let me sleep in. None did. These are a devoted lot.

If Sarah Kall sleeps, I'm sure she does jumping jacks in her dreams. To call her energy boundless would be a bit of a disservice—she was quite literally dancing at the end of our interview. There's a touch of a stereotype of the student life position as a kind of uber-Orientation leader, and I imagine she did a spectacular job as whatever it is the Orientation people call themselves. She laughs readily, and is genuinely excited about most things around her; you'd probably need to throw acid at her to stop her enthusiasm, though she is serious and thoughtful behind the "rah!" She evidently introduced the penguin dance to the University, which I'm told will mean something to a large number of you.

To the best of my knowledge, Amanda-Leigh Hanson doesn't dream. She might be the most down-to-earth candidate around, though. She's obviously not a politician, and doesn't seem interested in pretending to be one, but does earnestly care about effecting change. On stage or in person, she's exactly the same person, which isn't to say that the others change at all, just that she seems easier with herself than most. She has an even head, and while she doesn't seem to worry about too much, she certainly cares. She's also got an effortless, boisterous laugh, and uses it as much as possible, though I suppose that doesn't come up too much on the exec.

In that respect, her and Omer Yusuf have a lot in common. I think the man would keep smiling if you shot him in the face, and he's as happy-go-lucky as anyone in the race. He seems to earnestly relate to pretty much everyone else, and prefers to say nothing at all to saying something bad. He's far more outgoing than he was in high school, evidently—he played Magic cards, and he asked me very specifically not to mention that, though he's also looking for someone to play with here, if you're interested. I only do this because I'm fairly certain he can take the joke, and that he's a smart enough guy to know that if he told me it, I'm printing it.

As for the campaign, these are the dog days. The SUB stage forums are among the best attended, but least paid attention to. Most candidates have hit the biggest classes by now, and spend their time rushing between the smaller buildings. They're seasoned candidates at this point, and look to have lost a little bit of weight (two specifically said they need someone to remind them to eat). If this campaign was any longer, it wouldn't be an election, it would be a war of attrition.

Monday, 5 March

This is more or less it: there is one day of campaigning left, but this is the forum that everyone attends, this is why the candidates find speechwriters, this is the last thing I actually

have to attend before I can go to sleep and never talk to a student politician ever again. Cheering sections form, candidates line up across the stage like shooting ducks, the black curtain adding a little bit of gravitas and a little bit of the spectre of death to the proceedings. This just might be the biggest audience any of these people ever talks to, though if they actually realized this, I'm sure far fewer of them would have put in their names in to begin with.

It's a terrible shame that the two candidates running unopposed are unequivocally the most qualified. Amanda Henry is a bright, eloquent speaker, vastly knowledgeable, and one of the most honestly friendly people in the campaign. I have trouble picturing anyone who wouldn't like her—certainly every other candidate in the campaign is behind her—though that's not because she tries to be everyone's friend: she's frank and uncompromising, though knows how to work with people, and has a subtle sense of humour. She also knows how to butter a person up: she complimented my hair, without being explicit. I'd almost vote none of the above to watch her shred the poor fool who wanted to run against her. Almost.

The Myer Horowitz has emptied out. Laughs were had, questions that will probably set candidates against each other for life were asked, mic troubles were almost nonexistent. There are still posters to be stripped down, banners to be destroyed, votes to be cast; a life to get back to, when it's all over.

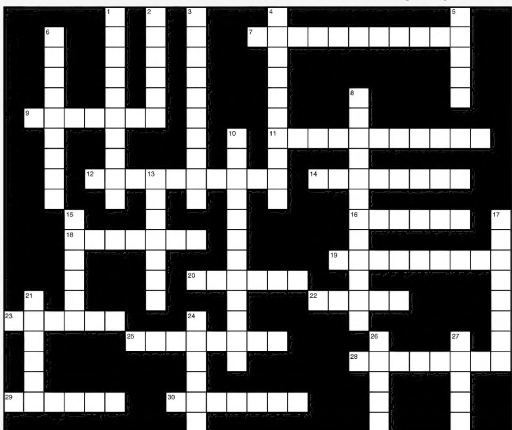
I haven't a clue who will win, and I don't care to share with you my own biases (at least not in races that are being contested). I hope that you've learned something about the candidates that can't be gleaned from a leaflet or a rehearsed speech, or at the very least gotten some idea of what kind of people run for student council. And, to the candidates: good luck to all of you. After a week of following you around, I can honestly say that there's nothing more that I want then for this all to be over. And that means some of you have to win.



How well do you know your SU candidates? Match each person with their respective fashion choices.

CROSSWORD

The Oscarword: compiled by Scott C Bourgeois.
The Crossword runs on most Tuesdays with the
answer available at www.gatewayualberta.ca



Across

7. The Best Foreign Language Film of the Year was made in this country (Two words).
9. The 1970 Best Motion Picture of the Year.
11. This year's Best Actress in a Leading Role.
12. The presenter of the Achievement in Special Effects award (two words).
14. This year's Best Documentary Feature was *March of the*.....
16. The winner of this year's Honorary Oscar.
18. George Clooney won Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his part in this movie.

19. The presenter of the Best Motion Picture of the Year award.

20. The winner of this year's Achievement in Costume Design.

22. The Best Motion Picture of the Year.

23. The 1975 Best Actor in a Supporting Role.

25. The 1958 Best Actor in a Leading Role.

28. Host of the 1999 Academy Awards.

29. Philip Seymour Hoffman won Best Actor in a Leading Role for his part in this movie.

30. The 1967 Best Actress in a Leading Role.

Down

1. The Best Live Action Short Film of the year.
2. The 1970 Best Motion Picture of the Year.
3. This year's Best Animated Feature was *Wallace & Gromit In The Curse Of The*.....
4. The host of the 78th Annual Academy Awards (two words).
5. The 1955 Best Motion Picture of the Year.
6. The 1933 Best Motion Picture of the Year.
8. The presenter of the Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures award (Two words).
10. The 1947 Achievement in

Directing winner.

13. Host of the 1963 Academy Awards.

15. This was named the Best Foreign Language Film of the Year.

17. The movie that won the Achievement in Sound Mixing award (Two words).

21. The year's Achievement in Art Direction award went to *Memoirs of a*.....

24. Winner of this year's Achievement in Directing award (two words).

26. The name of the theatre that the 78th Annual Academy Awards were broadcast from.

27. This year's Best Actress in a Supporting Role.



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go
to www.campusclassifieds.ca

FOR RENT

Looking for a place to live? Check out www.rentingspaces.ca to find your next home! Hundreds of current listings throughout Edmonton. A service of your Students' Union.

FOR SALE

Must sell 4 string banez \$890 bass guitar with Gator case and stand, 500 watt SWR head and 5 foot SWR cab with 8 x 10" subs. Excellent condition. Sold as package (\$2 900 OSB) or separate. Dale 464-4641

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) meets Sundays at 10:30am at Urdre, 7908-83 Street, Edmonton. Visitors welcome. Visit <http://www.edmontonquakers.org/> for more information.

EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Springhill Community Preschool Society seeks full-time teacher to deliver programming to 2-5-year-old children. Minimum education requirements are early Childhood Level III, Bachelors of Education or higher qualifications are welcome to apply. Must possess current first aid certification including child CPR and must supply a current security check including vulnerable sectors. Please submit resume including proof of education, first aid and security check to Attention: Kim Jain, Personnel Coordinator Springhill Community Preschool, 7730-106 St., Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 4W3.

NEED A SUMMER JOB? Painting positions, home exterior, May to August. \$6000-\$11000, no experience required. Call Jessie

at 719-1200 or e-mail jmoneys25@hotmail.com.

EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

TNT Motorcycling instructors wanted. If you love to ride and like to teach, information seminar 2 March, 2006, 447 3264.

Well established company seeking part-time Edmonton based employee. Position requires moderate to heavy lifting, excellent communication skills, an eye for detail, commitment, responsibility and punctuality. Duties include stocking merchandise into retail stores, ordering product and record keeping. Position requires 10-20 hours/week. Working vehicle needed. Send resume to bobriest@hotmail.com.

Parago Pizza on Whyte Ave is now accepting applications for cooks and drivers for evenings and weekends. Apply in person to 10742-82 Ave.

HELP THE KIDS. Alta Care Resources is hiring youth workers and crisis intervention

workers for Edmonton and area children and youth. Great experience, free training, and flexible hours. Position requires 2 years post-secondary or experience. Send resume to: Brandi Smith at 453-3723(fax), brandis@telus.net or 451-6040 ext.230. Visit www.altacareresources.com.

RA Malatest & Associates Ltd., Western Canada's largest independent research

firm, requires pt interviewers. Absolutely no sales involved. Flexible schedule, good for students. Over \$10/hour to start plus bonuses. Please fax or e-mail cover letter and resume to Joanne Parslow Fax(980)448-9047 e-mail j.parslow@malatest.com.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED
Teach ESL one morning or afternoon per week.

flexible schedule and training provided. Call Laura at 944-0792.

PERSONALS

It's Party Time! Dial 44-PARTY Ads. Jokes, stories and MORE! Free Local Call. 18+ Ladies always feel Guys from 50/minute! 1st time callers get free trial with ad code 4283. Meet new people... make new friends. Try it NOW!

Linking Organic Knowledge
OACC
Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada

Le réseau du savoir biologique
CABC
Centre d'agriculture biologique du Canada

Click, read and discuss Organics,
on your schedule.
OACC Organic web courses
for University credit.

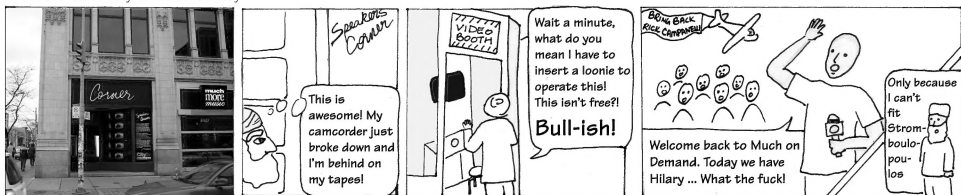
Click on 'Courses' at

www.oacc.info

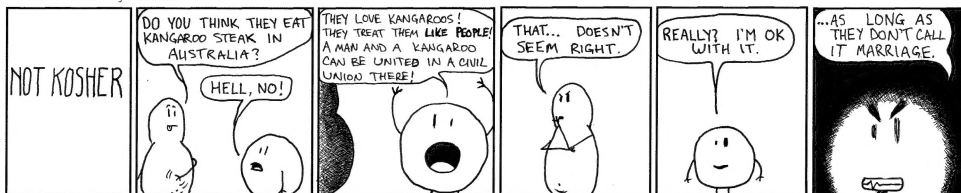
Teach English Worldwide
Start Your Adventure Today!
World Class TESOL Certification in 5 days
Over 25,000 Global TESOL Graduates are Teaching in 85 Countries
Study In-Class, Online or by Correspondence

Attend a FREE Info Night:
Tuesdays @ 7pm 7712-104 St.
(Across from Save-on-Foods)
1-888-270-2941
globaltesol.com

EVERYDAY OSAMA by Iris Tse & Chris O'Leary



PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause



F-RAY by Fraser Tingle



TRANSGENDER TROUBLES by Marie-Annick Jean



SOAP OPERA ITALIANO by Chris Jung



RENT A THUG by Jeff Martin





LINE EDITORS

The Gateway is accepting applications for the following line editor positions* for the 2006/2007 publishing year:

MANAGING EDITOR
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR
OPINION EDITOR
SPORTS EDITOR
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
PHOTO EDITOR
DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2006 to 30 April 2007. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Four issues of the Gateway will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least two of the four summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$5500* per month; all other line editors will receive \$3955* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 10 March 2006. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

* Complete job descriptions (subject to change) are available at [www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hring/](http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hr/hring/)

** Pay will be adjusted for CPI over the summer and may increase.

THE LATEST MP3 AND MUSIC PHONES. NOW \$50 OFF.*



NOW \$49.99*

\$99.99

Motorola ROKR

- Full MP3 player with iTunes**
- Bonus Pak includes 512MB card, stereo headset and USB cable**



NOW \$149.99*

\$199.99

Sony Ericsson W600

- Full MP3 player and Walkman® phone with built-in camera and video recorder
- Bonus Pak includes stereo headset and USB cable**



NOW \$149.99*

\$199.99

LG 500

- Full MP3 player with external controls
- Bonus Pak includes 512MB card, stereo headset and USB cable**



NOW \$99.99*

\$149.99

Motorola RAZR

- Now available in Pink and Blue only at Rogers
- Ultra-thin music phone

Includes an MP3 Phone Bonus Pak – \$129 VALUE**



ALSO GET YOUR CHOICE OF MORE GREAT MUSIC PHONES

Starting at **\$9.99***

rogers.com/loud

ROGERS™
Your World Right Now



EDMONTON

CENTRAL

10176 – 109 St.

426-2355

12302 Stony Plain Rd.

488-6622

Westgrove Shopping Centre

14822 Stony Plain Rd.

443-3022

Edmonton City Centre

10200 – 102 Ave.

421-4540

NORTH

Costco North

993-5188

2924 – 97 St.

473-2355

EAST

Capilano Mall

(outside entrance by Safeway)

450-6880

Millwoods Main Street Mall

6558 – 28 Ave. (by Tim Horton's)

460-2812

6839 – 83 St. (Argyll Rd.)

465-5271

SOUTH

6031 Gateway Blvd.

438-2355

9128 – 51 Ave.

498-5114

South Edmonton Common

485-9812

South Edmonton Common

(inside Superstore)

793-3355

Southgate Centre

434-5620

Southgate Centre

439-0435

Costco South

509-4544

9261 – 34 Ave.

702-6001

Hub Mall

8921 – 112 St.

432-3108

WEST

West Edmonton Mall Phase I

(lower level near Galaxy Land entrance)

484-4758

West Edmonton Mall Phase II

(by skating rink)

413-9855

West Edmonton Mall Phase III

(by London Drugs)

443-3040

10013 – 170 St.

408-8917

10068 – 170 St.

489-2255

Costco West

907-4530

LEDCO

6104 – 93 St.

966-0886

SHERWOOD PARK

993 Fir St.

417-2355

ST ALBERT

Inglewood Town Centre

419-2355



EDMONTON

Kingsway Garden Mall

471-3807

Londonderry Mall

476-2356

Northgate Mall

475 – 2724

Bonnie Doon Mall

438-0854

Millwoods Town Centre

436-7766

SHERWOOD PARK

Sherwood Park Mall

416-1775

ST ALBERT

St. Albert Centre

418-1681

GO TO ROGERS.COM, 1-800-462-4463, A ROGERS WIRELESS, ROGERS PLUS OR ROGERS VIDEO STORE FOR DETAILS



*Phone prices available only on subscription to a new 36-month service agreement. Offer subject to change without notice. Available at participating locations. **MP3 bonus offer available on select handsets while supplies last. Offer subject to change without notice. See in store for details. iTunes is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. The WALKMAN logo and symbol are registered trademarks of Sony Corporation. ®Rogers, Rogers Wireless, the Mobius Design and Your World Right Now are trademarks of Rogers Communications Inc., used under license. © 2006